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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 30, Iss. 7)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

UNITED

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXX, No. 7

Jersey City, N. J., April 1, 1948

Price 10 Cents

First Gun Off in ILGW 1948 Drive

Campaign Committees to Be Formed by All Affiliates—To Cooperate with AFL Labor's League for Political Education

Sounding a call for immediate action, in a letter addressed to all ILGWU affiliates the country over, the National ILGWU 1948 Campaign Committee, formed by members of the union's General Executive Board as individuals last January, urged the locals and joint boards to raise at once funds for the coming national election by voluntary contributions from members.

The Campaign Committee's appeal, set up with the slogan—Labor Fights Back for a Liberal America—estimated an effective campaign among ILGWU members to require at least \$500,000, with the target goal of a contribution of \$2 per member.

The voluntary factor was stressed in the communication, which was signed by Pres. David Dubinsky as chairman, in view of the restrictions imposed on labor unions under the Taft-Hartley Law, which prohibits contributions of union treasury funds to any political party, political committee or candidate in federal elections.

Hit among the ILGWU Campaign Committee's political objectives in the ensuing national contest is the election of liberal Congressmen as a bulwark to protect American wage-earners, salaried people, small business folk and general consumers against the depredations of reactionary elements and the unbridled appetites of food and fuel profiteers, the letter stated.

The repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law, rightly tagged by 15 million organized workers as a major stab at the American trade union movement inspired chiefly by the anti-union strategists of the National Association of Manufacturers, is also one of the main goals of the American Federation of Labor's League for Political Education. The ILGWU 1948 Campaign Committee is planning to coordinate its activities in

(Continued on Page 2)

FIVE THOUSAND IN LOCAL 105 GRANTED RAISES BY ARBITER

Raises from \$3 to \$5 for week workers and 7½ per cent for piece workers, effective April 15, have been granted members of Local 105, Sewers Workers, Vice Pres. Jacob J. Heller, manager of the local, announced on March 17.

The grant of the increases came through the office of George J. Minner, impartial arbitrator. The award applies to member firms of the Infants' and Children's Cost Association, Inc.

The increases for week workers were \$3 for those earning up to \$40 a week; \$4 for those earning \$40 to \$55, inclusive; and \$5 for those getting above \$55 a week. The award of 7½ per cent for piece workers contained the proviso that in such departments in any shop where the average is over 467 for 35 hours of work, the employer may choose to limit it to \$3 provided it is given to every employee in that

(Continued on Page 2)

DUBINSKY CONDEMNS POLICE 'ROUGH STUFF' IN EXCHANGE STRIKE

Sends \$5,000 to White-Collar Workers

Vigorous condemnation of the disastrous treatment of the New York Stock and Curb Exchange's white-collar strikers by the police was expressed on March 31 in a telegram to Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wainwright by David Dubinsky, ILGWU president. Dubinsky said that the situation revealed a "shocking state of affairs" and requested the Commissioner not to allow the use of police as a strike-breaking agency.

The ILGWU president announced at the same time that he was sending \$5,000 in contributions as strike support to M. David Kestel, president of the United Financial Employees' Union.

(Continued on Page 3)

1,000 PAY RESPECTS TO MORRIS ASHES, LATE CLOAK LEADER

Close to a thousand of his fellow workers, friends, and associates in the labor movement gathered at the Jewish Duty-Forward building on March 18 to pay their respects to the late Morris J. Ashbes, secretary-treasurer of the Cloak Joint Board, who had passed away on March 15 as a result of injuries incurred in an automobile accident.

Leaders of the needle trade unions, the ILGWU, the Workmen's Circle, and representatives of various labor, fraternal and cultural organizations participated in the obsequies.

Speakers at the Forward Hall and the cemetery included David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU; Israel Feinberg, general manager of

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Siege Stage Faces Die-Hards In L. A. Sportswear Conflict

After weeks of whirlwind activity, which brought scores of formerly non-union shops into contract relations with the Los Angeles ILGWU organization, the strike movement in the local sportswear and dress industry entered a new phase. It has settled

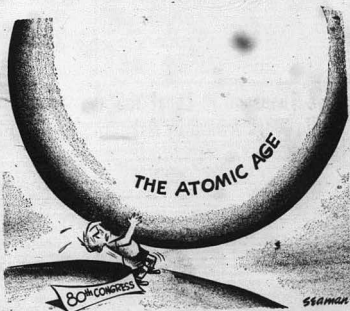
down to a siege against holdout open-shop firms which are still stubbornly resisting the union's efforts to establish standard labor conditions in their work plants. Louis Levy, Pacific Coast director, declared early this week.

This non-union fringe of employ-

ers has been counting on the financial drain which a prolonged strike might cause to help them weaken the will and spirit of the strikers, it was stated. The ILGWU membership in Los Angeles, however,

(Continued on Page 2)

"A Man's Job"



ILG Polio "Dimes" Close to \$20,000

Breaking all previous records and outpacing by far contributions by other trade unions, the General Office of the ILGWU last week announced that shop collections by the union's affiliates throughout the country during the month of

January, 1948, when the drive to aid the victims of infantile paralysis took place, brought in \$26,688.85.

In addition to this sum, received directly from affiliates by the union's General Office and forwarded to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, contributions by ILGWU groups and shops reported directly to the office of the Foundation would bring the total contributed by the ILGWU close to \$30,000, Frederick F. Umhey, the union's executive secretary, declared.

Last year's contribution to the "March of Dimes" drive amounted to \$69,362, according to Secretary Umhey. "The response of our members this year to the infantile paralysis aid campaign which the late Franklin D. Roosevelt cherished so dearly," he declared, "outstrips all their previous donations in the struggle to overcome the menace of poliomyelitis."

As in former years, Local 88, Italian Dressmakers Union, largest single local in the ILGWU, collected the largest amount, \$25,384.17.

A complete listing of all contributions by ILGWU affiliates to the 1948 "March of Dimes" campaign will appear in the next issue of "Justice."

CHILDREN'S NEEDS PLACED ON TOP OF LIST IN ILGWU PLEA

In a letter forwarded to ILGWU affiliates the country over early last month, Pres. David Dubinsky urged the union's locals and joint boards to "place the appeal for assistance to the American Overseas Aid-United Nations Appeal for Children on top of their list of worthy causes," it was announced from the ILGWU General Office.

The letter, dated March 3, reads as follows:

"Of all the problems confronting the world today, the acute needs of children in countries devastated by the war is the most serious and pressing."

"Today in Europe and Asia there are millions of children who, during the war and since, have been without sufficient food and medical care, with the result that malnutrition among them is widespread and their health is an increasingly dangerous threat to their future."

"In order to provide the necessary relief to these children and to assist them in their rehabilitation, the United Nations has set up the American Overseas Aid-United Nations Appeal for Children, which has undertaken a campaign for \$50,000,000."

"The funds raised will provide money for the American voluntary foreign relief agencies, including the Labor League for Human Rights, the official relief arm of the AFL, and will also encourage the American share in the United Nations Appeal for Children."

"I am sure that you are as deeply touched as I am by the cries of children who are starving, in pain and helpless."

"I therefore urge you to place the appeal for assistance to the American Overseas Aid-United Nations Appeal for Children on top of your list of worthy causes and to respond warmly."

Local 32 Wins Wage Boost Of 7% on Arbiter's Award

A general wage increase of 7 per cent was granted members of Local 32, Corset and Brassiere Workers, by Impartial Chairman Isaac Siegmister on March 15, according to Abraham Snyder, manager of the local.

The award gave a 7 per cent increase in all piece work rates per cent or 43—whichever is larger—to work workers (except cutters), and a boost of 10 to cutters. All increases became effective March 15.

Snyder headed the negotiating committee which included Lloyd Nagler and Moe Falkman of Local 32, and Elise Lieberman, attorney for the local.

Refusal of the Associated Corset and Brassiere Manufacturers, Inc. to grant any part of the 15 per cent increase requested by the local resulted in the request being referred to arbitration.

At a hearing in the impartial chairman's office on March 8 the local argued that its members were entitled to higher wages under the escalator clause in the contract.

SIEGE FACES L. A. SPORTSWEAR FIGHT

(Continued from Page 1)

is countering this maneuver of the die-hard element among the employers with a new burst of enthusiastic resistance to raise at once a fund of \$125,000 for carrying on the drive through the levy of an assessment of a day's pay. Not only the demonstrators and workers who are directly connected with the strike but also clockmakers have expressed willingness to participate in the levy.

The assessment was recommended by the executive body of the general strike committee following a report on the financial situation of the strike. It followed a report on the strike situation by Vice Pres. Louis Levy, which included a promise from the International Office that it would match, double or triple whatever amount was raised in Los Angeles.

Day's Tax Okayed

The membership of the local affiliated with the Los Angeles Dress Joint Board has already approved the day's pay levy at an enthusiastic meeting in the Labor Temple on March 25. Meetings of the clockmakers' and sportswear locals are scheduled for the current week, it was announced.

The assistance of the Los Angeles labor movement for the dress and sportswear strikers was also taking concrete form, it was announced. In addition to voting funds for the investigation of the activities of the strike-breaking trucking concern which is running cash merchandise through ILGWU picket lines, the Los Angeles Central Labor Council was lining up AFL attorneys with ILGWU lawyers to combat the legal attack launched against the union.

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EISENHOWER DRAFT URGED BY LIBERALS

The Liberal Party, which cast 329,235 votes in New York State in 1944 for the Roosevelt ticket, formally abandoned on March 20 the Truman candidacy and appealed for the nomination of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The call issued by the policy committee of the Liberal Party for the Eisenhower nomination was as follows: "In this deepening crisis we believe that our country needs at its head a man who can unify all of our people in the preservation of democratic values. We have come to the conclusion that Dwight Eisenhower as a candidate of the democratic and liberal forces could win the greatest number of Americans at this time."

"We call on all our affiliated groups to initiate discussion of the proposal to draft Eisenhower for President, and to be prepared to state their views at the meeting of the state committee of the Liberal Party on April 17."

At the conclusion of the meeting of the Liberal Party's committee, Adolf A. Berle, Jr., state chairman of the party, was asked about Eisenhower's views on matters of concern to liberals. In reply Berle said: "We have a fair idea of his views on KSP, labor, and other things and those views are satisfactory. The overriding interest today is to get some unity in our country."

CALL SOUNDED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ILG '48 CAMPAIGN

(Continued from Page 1)

the various states and districts with the major planning of the ILPE.

In addressing the ILGWU affiliates at the details of the fund-raising drive and offering suggestions that would serve these affiliates as a guide for their activities during the 1948 campaign and for the formation of local campaign committees on state or community levels, the executive committee officials to advise the National 1948 Campaign Committee at once:

a) who the officers of your local campaign committee are;

b) to the fund group which your local committee has established;

c) when you will commence the actual fund-raising drive.

"You will shortly receive posters, subscription lists, control sheets, contribution stamps and receipt books," the letter continued. "We of the National Committee will do everything within our power to assist you and to help guide your activities. Feel free to call upon us and to report to us regularly and fully about your plans and activities."

DUBINSKY CONDEMNS POLICE 'ROUGH STUFF' IN EXCHANGE STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1)

playes, the union whose members are on strike. Of that sum, \$2,000 was given by the ILGWU Central Office and \$2,000 by the Joint Board of the New York Clockmakers.

"This strike deserves the full support of the entire labor movement," Dubinsky stated. "At a time when industrial workers are enjoying the benefits in decent wages and job security coming from collective bargaining and union protection, while other workers at the financial heart of America and the world have a real case. Their claims come from a real need. The position taken by the Wall Street leaders in forcing workers to strike for minimum protection cannot be too strongly condemned."

The text of the telegram to Commissioner Wallender reads as follows:

"Pictures in this morning's papers of treatment of white-collar strikers in the financial district by police is a disgraceful spectacle and a discredit to the good name of our city. We vigorously condemn such action by police. This is a shocking incident in our city which has achieved over the years a record of fair treatment of strikers. Urgently request you not to allow the use of a disgraced police as strike-breaking agency."

Five Thousand in local 105 Gain Wage Award by Arbiter

(Continued from Page 1)

department. Cutters received an increase of 60 per week.

Noting that the collective agreement provided an escalator clause to cover potential cost-of-living rises, Mintner said that the raises he granted were just and in keeping with added living costs.

The reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated, he said, "that the cost of living has risen approximately 10 per cent since the last general increase in the industry."

"The union also presented evidence that the payroll of the workers in this industry for 1947 in inside shops was approximately \$2,500,000 compared to \$2,700,000 in 1947, a shrinkage of 11 per cent in

contractors shops the workers' payroll in 1947 was \$4,015,000 compared to a payroll of \$2,350,000 in 1947, a shrinkage of 16 per cent."

"The future outlook for the industry is good. Properly prepared and submitted by the union indicate that the production and sales volume will substantially increase during the next few years in keeping with the general market trend. This may be true, provided that the cost to the consumer is not too high. Otherwise there may be strong sales resistance."

Representing the interests of the cutters in the Local 105 shops during the negotiations were Louis Nagler, manager and Moe Falkman, assistant manager, respectively, of Local 10, Cutters' Union.

1947 Financial Report-ILGWU General Office

As has been our practice for many years past, a detailed financial report covering the General Office and the local unions and joint boards will be published sometime in June when the annual audit of our affiliates throughout the country are completed. The report will then be made available to our affiliates and to our members, and full and sufficient notice will be given to them that such a report is available.

This report of the General Office only is printed in its present form in advance of the audits of the local unions in order to comply with NLRB requirements.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES December 31, 1947

| ASSETS | |
|--|----------------------|
| Cash | 1,540,549.48 |
| U. S. Government Bonds | 7,145,549.00 |
| Loans Receivable | 3,540,462.00 |
| Investment in Corporate Stock | 265,100.00 |
| Mortgage Receivable | 377,500.00 |
| Deposits | 1,890.00 |
| Furniture and Fixtures | 43,714.24 |
| Annuities | 25,500.00 |
| Inventory Storage Labels, etc. | 30,000.00 |
| Total Assets | 12,905,442.72 |
| LIABILITIES | |
| Loans Payable | 211,802.12 |
| On Account of Collections | 790,714.22 |
| Withholding Tax | 6,775.50 |
| Securities | 2,943.00 |
| Reserve Available for Death Benefits Payment for Members | 2,525,428.96 |
| Retirement Fund | 39,500.00 |
| Total Liabilities | 3,865,504.14 |

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS January 1 to December 31, 1947

| RECEIPTS | |
|---|---------------------|
| Dues Per Capita | 2,832,655.53 |
| Supplementary Per Capita | 138,149.96 |
| Death Benefit Assessments | 208,712.00 |
| Supplementary Death Benefit Assessments | 667,000.00 |
| Institutions and Labor Causes Assessment | 224,677.58 |
| Inflation Tax | 116,056.14 |
| Supplies | 24,850.97 |
| Interest on Investments | 116,336.30 |
| Miscellaneous Receipts | 28,852.53 |
| Total Receipts | 4,885,346.72 |
| DISBURSEMENTS | |
| Administrative Expense | |
| Publications Cost-Printing | 329,093.08 |
| Mailing, etc. | |
| Salaries-Bookkeepers, stenographers, Clerks, etc. | 264,598.27 |
| Rent, Office | 11,313.87 |
| Printing, Stationery & Postage | 85,846.42 |
| Telephone and Telegraph | 21,315.27 |
| Tolls to Other Organizations | 126,610.00 |
| F.O.A., Federal, State Unemployment Insurance & Annuities | 83,194.31 |
| Departmental Expense | 40,023.32 |
| Miscellaneous Expense | 97,667.17 |
| Total Administrative Expense | 846,415.54 |
| Organization Expense | |
| Salaries-Organizers | 607,147.28 |
| Organizing Expense | 495,265.41 |
| Legal Fees and Expense | 47,782.82 |
| Committee Expense | 11,096.20 |
| Educational & Recreational Expense | 81,897.01 |
| Publicity, Advertising, Radio | 54,718.09 |
| Strike Benefit & Expense | 36,726.23 |
| ILGWU Convention Expense | 124,409.90 |
| Total Organization Expense | 1,466,703.11 |
| Donations and Relief | |
| Relief to Members | 8,958.69 |
| Charitable & Labor Organizations | 140,162.72 |
| Total Donations & Relief | 175,141.61 |
| Death Benefit Payments to Members | 285,824.70 |
| Total Disbursements | 2,764,174.96 |

Montreal Dressmakers Urge Inquiry Into Textile Prices

The Montreal Dressmakers' Joint Board wired Paul Martin, chairman of Canada's Parliamentary Price Investigating Committee, meeting in Ottawa. The board requested an immediate investigation of skyrocketing prices of textiles used in the manufacture of dresses, according to Bernard Shans, ILOUWU general organizer.

The joint board considers the present "unconscionable rise in the cost of textiles" a grave threat to the dress industry that may result in unemployment to thousands of dressmakers in Montreal, according to Shans.

He pointed out that a textile called "Printed Bougaine," a screen cloth, sold in 1941 for 85 cents a yard and now sells for \$1.50 a yard for a ruled print. A certain "Fetal Cove" produced by one of the largest textile manufacturers in Canada was sold by jobbers in 1940 at 35 cents a yard and now sells for 62½ cents.

"We know of instances where certain cheap materials used in the manufacture of dresses were completely discontinued. Now, similar materials are being manufactured at twice the price," Shans said. The union is most concerned about the skyrocketing textile prices. It believes the rise can result only in disaster to the dress industry, the third largest in Montreal, and in widespread unemployment.

"Our main function is to see that our members are employed. Unemployment in the dress industry is a disaster," Shans said.

BOSTON LOCALS, AVG HEAR HANDLESS YET ON RACE TOLERANCE

Harold Russell, handless veteran and screen star of "The Best Years of Our Lives," spoke before a combined meeting of Local 48 and 73, March 31 in Boston.

The meeting was scheduled by the dressmakers and cutters in conjunction with the ILOUWU chapter celebrating Constitution Day. Russell was introduced by Vice Pres. Kramer of the ILOUWU.

Beginning with personal anecdotes, Russell spoke on racial tolerance and won immediate respect as a person and a fighter. Relating his experiences in the army, he told of a group of GIs captured by the Germans and taken to a prisoner-of-war camp.

When the GIs arrived they were lined up in machine guns and fired at and all GIs were told to step forward. Without hesitation the white contingent, Negro and white, stepped forward. Calmly and bravely, they stepped forward as one. The Germans trained machine guns on them and said, "This," said Russell, "is brotherhood."

"Let America be united around the principles of democracy, justice and brotherhood; let us export brotherhood as our most valuable commodity," Russell concluded his speech, "and we will have nothing to fear from the Glatins, Molotoves and Vihinsky's."

Elmer C. Foster, director of the Boston Joint Board's health department, described the ways discrimination may show itself in people's daily lives, especially in the use of derogatory terms for minority groups.

Chairing the meeting the entire audience arose and recited a mass pledge:

"I pledge allegiance to the basic ideal of democracy, fair play to all. I pledge unto my fellow Americans, regardless of race, creed or color, all the rights, privileges and dignities I desire for myself, so help me God."

TWO INDIANA LOCALS GAIN IMPROVED PACT AFTER HECTIC STRIKE

After three months of tardy negotiations, a sharp and effective strike against the Shelby Dress Co. of Shelbyville, Ind., and the Shelby-Ham Co. of Terre Haute, Ind., climaxed by a NLRB rejection of a petition filed by these firms requesting the de-certification of the two ILOUWU locals in these towns under the Taft-Hartley Law brought last week a settlement of this conflict, Vice President Morris Bialle announced.

The negotiations were carried on by General Organizer Abraham Plokin and Geraldine Gordon, jointly with Bialle.

The new contract contained the following provisions: (1) Union shop security clause; (2) 82 cents base rate; (3) 82 cents guarantee for experienced operators; and a clause calling for make-up pay if take-home pay falls below this figure; (4) 10 cents an hour rate for all time workers; (5) 15¢ per cent to Midwest Welfare Fund; (6) improved vacation plan.

Chi "Gold Coast" Firm Lifts Wages, Ups Work Terms

Marking the third wage increase in one year, the ratification of a new contract with Jacques, Inc., 348 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill., last week, brought up wages of all workers employed in the dressmaking and alteration departments of this firm from an average of \$39.50 for 40 hours to \$51.50 for 35 hours. Other provisions in the contract

They Had the Stuff That Counted

Part of the picket line of Local 380, Shelbyville, Ind., which aided in reaffirming collective bargaining rights and winning a new contract of Shelby Garment Co.



By MORRIS BIALLE, V.P.
Director, Midwest District ILOUWU

A cost-of-living pay boost for 3,500 garment workers in member-shops of the Garment Industries of Illinois is being sought in current conferences. These workers are employed manufacturing wash dresses, sportswear and other apparel items.

The wage adjustment is being sought under terms of an agreement negotiated last June which provides for an adjustment after three months.

Involved in the negotiations are Locals 76 and 261, Chicago; Local 337, Elkhart, Ind.; Local 440, Bloomington, Ind.; Local 441, Evansville, Ill.; Local 130, Decatur, Ill.; and Local 246, South Bend, Ind.

No Large Decline

Chicago garment shops have not experienced any drastic drop in the volume of work. The season in cloaks was fast to bury. With the exception of large shops, cloak shops are operating full time.

Dress plants are also working full time even though no "rush" pressure have developed.

The dress industry agreement will expire in August. The joint board and locals are already considering plans for renewal conferences.

Rhea Agreement

The agreement with the Rhea Garment Co. of Milwaukee has been renewed after extended negotiations. Week workers obtained increases ranging from 5 cents to 12½ cents an hour. Piece workers were given an increase of 5 per cent.

Floor workers' hourly single piece operations now receive 15 per cent, and other pieces workers receive 10 per cent above individual earnings. The increase is retroactive to Oct. 1, 1947.

Al Hupp, manager of the Milwaukee Joint Board resigned on March 8 because of health considerations. Hupp, who has been active in the Milwaukee ILOUWU since its inception, stepped in as manager two years ago.

Miller Congratulated

Jadore Miller, vice chairman of Local 18 Clank Pressers, was honored on his 50th birthday by a small party sponsored by the executive board of the local. Scores of congratulatory messages were received commending Miller for his many years of devoted service to the union.

Leon Stein, managing editor of "Justice," and Jean Martin, the department's educational director.

The conference adopted resolutions demanding an increase in the minimum wage, opposing the poll-tax and condemning anti-labor legislation in Virginia.

Local 400, Roanoke, acted as host to the delegates at a Saturday night dance.

50 Leaders Gather in Roanoke for Annual Conference On Current Shop Conditions in Upper South Department

More than fifty leaders from women's garment shops in Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia gathered in Roanoke, Va., over the March 19 weekend for the Annual Conference of the Upper South Department. Meeting with them during the major sessions were ILOUWU officers including Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler, supervisor of the department, and Angela Bamback, department manager.

Although this was only the fifth of these annual conferences, the "town-hall" procedure has become traditional. Through one long session on Saturday morning, delegates followed delegate to the platform to present a report on shop conditions back home in the plant.

The department comprises some 25 plants of varying size and production. Since these have been unionized for 15 years, some for less than 18 months. At the conference there were votes that spoke of shop conditions with the ring of full confidence that comes with years of experience.

Taken together, the reports pictured current developments on one of the major frontiers of ILOUWU organization. In their reports, many of the staff told of employee maneuvers, of propaganda blasted aimed at frightening or confusing newcomers to the union.

Summarizing these reports Manager Bamback as well as Vice Pres. Kreindler and Assistant Department Manager Irwin Jaffe, noted that in all sections of the department progress toward full realization of union standards has been difficult but certain.

In many sections the major problem is still raising minimum wages in newly-organized shops in which even spectacular increases negotiated by the union have still left earnings at too low a level.

Other section earnings are good and plans for improvements focus on welfare benefits.

In virtually all negotiations, it was reported, employer resistance was stiffened toward improvement sought by the union. A consensus of the conference was that the paramount task in coming months will be to close the ranks of union organizations through educational programs and to counter the effects of legislation restricting unions by encouraging political activity among members.

The keynote of the conference was sounded by ILOUWU Pres. David Doherty who, in a letter read by Vice Pres. Kreindler, declared that the Taft-Hartley Law is a threat to workers and industry alike because it hampers the peaceful operation of time-tested collective bargaining procedures.

The delegates heard a number of most speakers during the weekend. These included Vice Pres. John B. Martin who described current industrial trends at educational problems in the Southern Department; I. C. Weisted, secretary-treasurer of the Virginia State Federation of Labor who issued a ringing call for the electorate to return democracy to Virginia by breaking the political grip of Senator Byrd; John J. Edmonds, attorney for the Upper South Department and Baltimore City Councilman who presented a detailed analysis of the Taft-Hartley Law.

Other speakers were Mark Starr, educational director of the ILOUWU;



"Day Line" Wins 1st Award



Eve Brooks shown with her first-prize winner in recent Local 22 Art Exhibit.

Local 22 Giving All-Out Aid To Palestine Unions in Crisis

The New York Dressmakers' campaign to aid the trade union movement of Palestine is receiving enthusiastic and wholehearted support, according to Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of the local.

Voluntary donations have exceeded all expectations. Tens of thousands of dollars have already poured into the offices of Local 22 and continuing collections evidence the generosity of the members during the critical situation in the Holy Land.

The following shops are leading the collection drive:

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Max Wiener | \$2,500 |
| Al Blumenthal | 2,000 |
| A. Goodman | 1,000 |
| Varden | 757 |
| S. Chapman | 750 |
| Betty Bee | 574 |
| Ben Ray | 507 |
| Pinard Modes | 500 |
| Mabelle | 500 |
| Friedman & Burdette | 500 |
| Majestic Dress | 500 |

Zimmerman urged all shops to speed up their collections and bring them to the local office to permit an immediate accounting.

The ILOWU vice president declared that "on the basis of the still incomplete collection returns for Hittadrut, eloquent testimony has been given of our members' awareness of the necessity of immediate aid to our brother trade unions in Palestine."

Nagler Elected, a Vice Chairman of New York's ADA

Indore Nagler, ILOWU vice president, was elected a vice chairman of the New York Chapter of the Americans for Democratic Action on March 23 at a meeting of the membership.

Plans were made at the meeting for a city convention on the week-end of May 7 to include all non-Communist labor-labor forces in the city.

At the convention the ADA plans to expand its membership "to include a more representative group from labor and the liberal movement generally," and lay down a program of action with these groups. One of its main purposes will be to accept the offer of "full partnership from the great labor organizations" on the local level.

Speaking for the resolution which called for the May 7 convention, Nagler said, "There is a great stake in the resolution—the common interest of labor and progressives in the country. The ideas of the ADA permeate the trade union movement."

Prof. Paul Hays of the Columbia University Law School was re-elected chairman of the city chapter.

Liberals Castigate Palestine Reversal; Laud Trieste Stand

Terming the U. S. reversal on Palestine partition, voted by the United Nations General Assembly on Nov. 29, 1947, a "shattering blow to the United Nations," the Liberal Party of New York called upon the National Administration to "renew our pledge of honor if our country is to be true to itself and stand in the fight for peace and freedom."

The Liberal Party endorsed the proposal of the United States, France and Britain for the return of Trieste to the Italian Republic. "The Italian peace treaty contained many injustices; one of the most serious was the tearing away of Trieste. There could be no real peace in that part of the world as long as that condition existed," the Liberal Party's statement read.

NEW YORK VOTERS: Primary Day is April 6

Liberal Party Enrolls: Vote for State and City Committees

Polls in N.Y.C. open from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M.
Update from noon to 3 P.M.

N. Y. DRESSMAKERS

DRESS-MAKING BOARD

Registry Begins for 1948 Vacations As Dress Board Issues Instructions

Vacation Amounts For Dressmakers Not Yet Decided

Although the schedule of vacation benefits payable by craft is still to be determined by the Dressmakers Health and Welfare Fund, it seems certain, on the basis of preliminary returns, that the mark for the total of such payments set last year will be exceeded.

Vacation benefits paid out last year totaled approximately \$250,000.

Chairmen are expected to return the vacation lists by the union by April 15, according to Secretary-Treasurer Nathaniel M. Minckoff.

Cases involving members, who are not regularly attached to a shop will be considered after the regular cases are processed, and at a date to be announced.

Top Galaxy Listed For 43rd LID Meet

Dr. Jura Slavia, former Czechoslovak ambassador to the U. S., will be one of the speakers at the 43rd annual luncheon of the League for Industrial Democracy to be held at the Hotel Commodore, Saturday, April 3.

"Democracy in Crisis—Plans for Economic Security and Peace with Freedom," will constitute the central theme of the conference preceding and following the luncheon. Among the luncheon speakers are Leon Keyserling, vice chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, Barisan Wooten, British economist, Louis Fisher, author and lecturer, and James B. Carey, CIO secretary. Mark Starr will preside.

Orator scheduled to address the conference are Max Lewis, Kermit Rhy, Boris Shishkin, George Soule, Dr. William Withers, Theodore Brown, Nathaniel M. Minckoff, the Norman Angell, Angelica Balabanoff, Israel Peltzman, John Paul Jones, Hal Leiman, Joseph Schlessberg, and Dr. Bjarne Hestoy.

Benefits Expected to Top \$2,500,000; Membership in Good Standing Required

Intricate machinery to distribute vacation benefits to members of the Joint Board Dress and Waimakers' Union under the Health and Welfare Fund is being readied, according to Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, chairman of the latter's administrative committee.

Official registration forms have been mailed to shop chairmen to register all members, including cutters and those temporarily out because of illness.

Only those members in good standing who have belonged to the union for six months are eligible for the benefits. Hochman urged prompt payment of dues to avoid unnecessary delay in sending out the checks.

Members are further advised to chain their dues cards if the latter are in the union office for any reason. They should also sign their names on the front of the dues card. No vacation checks will be cashed unless the member's signature appears on the card.

Hochman stressed the necessity of filling out registration forms clearly and accurately. Names should be printed or typed.

The following specific instructions to shop chairmen may be used as a guide:

In Column 1, enter the craft of each member in the following order by using the following letters: (C) for Cutter, (P) for Presser, (O) for Operator, (S) for Seamstress, (SM) for Special Machine Operator, (D) for Draper, (F) for Finisher, (E) for Examiner, (CL) for Clerk, (PK) for Pinker, (PG) for Floor Girl. Be sure to write PK for Pinker, and CL for Cleaner to avoid confusion with Pressers and Cutters.

In Column 2, enter the number of the local to which the member belongs.

In Column 3, enter the member's ledger number. Copy it accurately from the membership card.

In Column 4, enter the member's name, in full. First Name First, Last Name Last.

In Column 5, enter the member's present home address.

In Column 6, enter the date of

the member's initiation. You will find the date on the inside of the membership card.

In Column 7, enter up to what month the member is paid up in his dues. If the last stamp appears in the April box, your answer should be "May."

In Column 8, record how long the member has been employed in your shop, for instance, 5 years or 18 months.

When you are through, sign your name at the bottom of the form. Do not write in any other column or space. If you need more forms you can get them at the union office.

LOCAL 60 PLANS ACTIVE ROLE IN LIBERAL POLITICS

A special meeting of Local 60 Liberal Club members from Brookline and the Bronx was held recently in the Dress Pressers' auditorium. Max Cohen and Jack Spitzer, local manager and chairman respectively, presented plans for Local 60's participation in the 1948 LID Campaign Committee.

Cohen and Spitzer strongly emphasized the importance of political activity by members during the presidential campaign.

"It is the aim and duty of each and everyone of us to devote maximum time and energy to defeat all enemies of labor," Cohen stated.

An affair is being planned for April. Proceeds will be used to carry on the work of the local's campaign committee whose officers are Jack Spitzer, chairman, and Elias Kufnetzky, secretary-treasurer.

BIEMILLER, TYLER, STARR LEAD HUDSON SHORE SPRING MEET

A "Political Education Institute," scheduled for two week-ends, April 18-19 and May 1-2, at the Hudson Shore Labor School, West Park, N. Y., with Andrew J. Biemiller, Gus Tyler and Mark Starr as instructors, has just been announced. Highlighting the discussion subject of the two "institutes" are such major topics as: (1) Tensile of the Campaign; (2) Overall Strategy; (3) Election Techniques; and (4) What Can You Do?

These larger topics will be broken down by the instructors into detailed schedules including domestic and foreign policies, the rebuilding of the "Roosevelt Front," and the "Meaning of the Wallace Party."

Details regarding attendance may be obtained from the ILOWU Educational Office, 1119 Broadway, New York, Columbia 8-7008.

"Muy Lucido" (Very Brilliant), Say the Rumba Experts



Gay Latin costumes of dancers and chorus provided a carnival air to the "Festival Baileño" or Spring Dance held by Spanish Section Dressmakers of Local 22 on March 20. A two-hour entertainment given by the dancers, who included members of the local as well as professionals, aroused a storm of applause. Baby Nabana (center) was in charge.

Orchids to Executive Board Members in South River



Vice Pres. Harry Wander seems to like being surrounded by the activities committee of the executive board which serves both Locals 150 and 157. The smiling lady leaders include (left to right) Mary Stromittor, Stella Smolens, Marie Zaramba, Olga Hockin, Helen Viaz, cheerleader of the board, Mary Longo, Anna Rusin and Angela Arisil.

Workers at Gale Dress Win Pact After Strike

After a two-day strike by the newly organized workers of the Gale Dress Co., Highland, N. Y., the firm agreed to join the United Poughkeepsie Dress Manufacturers' Association. It is announced by Morison Goodman, manager of the Hudson Valley area.

The workers will receive all the benefits contained in the union's contract with that association.

Renewal in Bayonne, N. J. Brings \$4 Wage Boost

The Drager & Welser Co., Bayonne, N. J., a children's dress manufacturer operating under the trade name "Alice in Wonderland," has renewed its agreement with the union. The workers have won an increase of \$4 a week under the new pact. It is announced by Manager Sadie Reich.

The wage increase is retroactive to Dec. 15.

war Co., South River, N. J., also received an increase of 7 per cent. Negotiations are continuing with Reliable Sportswear, South River, N. J., and Penn Sportswear, New Brunswick, N. J.

"Unita" and "Avanti" have changed black into white and vice versa. They have lied fabulously.

"The pure and simple truth is that should Italy fall for one reason or another under the dictatorship of the Communist coalition represented by the so-called bloc for peace, democracy, labor, Italy would be entirely left without any assistance."

"She would be deprived not only of the help foreseen by the Marshall Plan and of the other forms of government help, but also of the remittances by our emigrants, remittances which are indispensable for counterbalancing the Italian commercial budget and the very existence of millions of Italian families."

"American help is no longer sent to the countries beyond the Iron curtain. If Italy also should become the victim of the Russian iron curtain of tyranny and death, the main artery of Italian life would be closed and choked off."

From America

"American aid to Italy and Europe does not come from the so-called high finance of Wall Street. It comes from American citizens who pay taxes. It will always be essential to convince the American citizens to pay more taxes in order to assist the European people to rehabilitate themselves and to re-build their countries."

"No one, however, could persuade them to make these sacrifices in order to help an enemy totalitarian country, as Italy would become should the Tagliatti group control the government; that group which

45 Workers at Sol Walters Stand Firm Against Lockout

The Sol Walters Co., Nyack, N. Y., a non-union dress manufacturer, locked out 45 employees on March 13 when they demanded he recognize the union as their bargaining agent. Charges of unfair labor practice have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board according to Manager Louis Reiff.

After signing union application cards the workers formed a committee and requested a conference with the employer. He refused to meet with the committee.

On the following day the employees called a meeting at the workers' home and demanded that they recognize the union as their bargaining agent or be known out of work. The workers remained united and refused his demand, whereupon a notice was posted upon the bulletin board informing them that the plant would close the following day.

Since that time, the workers have been maintaining a united picket line in front of the shop and they are determined to return to work only under a union contract.

Richard Van Stuenkel, new local president, recounted the numerous improvements which have been won in the shops and paid tribute to the ILGWU for "a job well done."

Other officers introduced were Betty Palmieri, vice president, and Thelma Kelley, secretary.

In the electoral campaign has made of America its number one enemy by smearing the walls of Italy with the most infamous, ridiculous and criminal lies against the United States, from which Italy always absorbed the triumph of her life.

"From Milan, Rome, Naples, Palermo, I am informed that the Italians are beginning to laugh when they hear of these big, very big lies against America. They read and pass on."

"The Italians should be congratulated for their instinctive intelligence."

"THE VOICE OF LOCAL 89"

The Most Popular ITALIAN RADIO HOUR
Symphony Orchestra and Opera Singers of International Fame

Luigi Antonini
First Vice President, ILGWU
and General Secretary of Local 89
in his weekly committee on labor and political events.

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
From 10 to 11
ON EASTERN HOOKUP
WFTD (1330 Kc.) New York
WHOM (1480 Kc.) New York
WYAT (1340 Kc.) Philadelphia
WYNG (1340 Kc.) New Haven

INTERNATIONAL
HARRY WANDER, MANAGER
EASTERN OUT-OF-TOWN DEPT.

L. I. Workers Win Increases As 3 Shops Sign Contracts

Substantial wage increases and renewed organizational activities in Long Island are reported by Jack Grossman, manager of Local 57.

Piece workers employed by the Nassau Brandere Co., Inwood, L. I., received a 7 per cent. rise, time workers received \$3 more a week and outers received a \$4 weekly boost. Negotiations were based upon the escalator clause in the union contract.

At the Corona Corset Co., Corona, L. I., identical gains were achieved but negotiations are continuing on other demands before the new contract is signed. However, agreement is expected in the near future.

These increases bring wage scales in the two plants up to the levels recently won by Local 33 in its agreement with the dress industry in New York City.

L. I. Organizing

Organization activities in Long Island resulted in the signing three new shops.

The shops are the Long Island Dress Co., Brentwood, Glenside, L. I., Houdman, Bayville, blouse manufacturer, and the Rainbow Manufacturing Co., Glen Cove, dress manufacturer.

The three firms have joined the associations in their industries, and the workers will receive all benefits of the union's agreement with the associations.

Ask Boost at Tree

Involving the escalator clause in the union's contract with the Two Corset Co., Jamaica, L. I., Israel Horowitz, assistant manager of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department, has begun negotiations with the firm for a substantial wage increase. The firm employs over 150 workers.

Attention, Members!

Where a worker believes his claim for unemployment insurance benefits was wrongfully rejected, he must file an appeal within a limited time. Unless such an appeal is filed within the limited period, the member forfeits all rights to such disputed benefits. Members are cautioned to contact their local union office immediately upon having such claims rejected.

WAGE RISES WON FOR OVER 200 IN EOT SPORTSWEAR

Wage increases similar to those recently won by the sportswear workers in New York City are being negotiated in Eastern Out-of-Town sportswear shops. It is announced by Vice Pres. Harry Wander, director of the department.

Manager Simon Baumert reports that new wage scales have been obtained for 200 workers employed by the College Sportswear and the Rapid Sportswear Co., New Brunswick, N. J. Piece workers received an increase of 7 per cent. time workers \$3.

Piece workers of the Rapid Sports-

hards, Giuseppe Saragat and Matteo Matteotti.

"Tightened by this revival of democratic and truly socialist spirit among the Italian workers, Tagliatti and Di Vittorio, Nenni and Saragat have no other alternative than that of conceding the truth."

"I have at hand the issue of March 17, 1948 of Tagliatti's 'Unita' and Nenni's 'Avanti.' 'Unita' points out fantastic statements by Di Vittorio in headlines as big as the lie which they conceal: 'American help will arrive no matter the kind of government.' 'Avanti,' in full agreement, prints an interview by Saragat in which this successor of Lisandrì, echoing the words of Di Vittorio, states that he has had the assurance from the American CIO representatives whom he met in London, that American help would be continued no matter what will happen in the Italian political field."

Black Into White

"What is this? Whom are they trying to fool? Well, I am here to state most explicitly that with these stories 'Unita' and 'Avanti' are trying to fool the workers and all of the people of the Italian Republic."

Antonini Assails Communists In Italy as Moscow Agents

Unless Italian voters on April 18 repel the Communist fifth column, Italy cannot hope for continued American aid, Luigi Antonini warned Italian listeners in a State Department broadcast on March 24.

The ILGWU first vice president and head of the Italian-American Labor Council was the first of a series of labor leaders to address the Italian workers over four short wave stations.

The full text of Antonini's speech follows:
"In behalf of the Italian-American Labor Council I wish to express my most emphatic commendation for the increasing rebellion of the Italian workers against the whims of the totalitarian bloc of Tagliatti and Nenni, which follows the orders of the frenzied Moscow tyranny."

"We know that something new, something very important, something vital for the future of the Italian democracy is taking place now among the Italian workers."

Path to Peace

"They are leaving the path leading to starvation, tyranny and war on which Tagliatti and Nenni would like to take them, and are following the traditional path of the Italian proletariat, the path of Turati, Frampontini, Matteotti and Bazzani, whose banner is now in the hands of Ivan Mattei Lombardi."

+ Joe Genucci!

They need not ask themselves: Who has been cruel in preparation of the Peace Treaty? Who has been stubborn in depriving Italy of Trieste and Istria? Who seeks to have warships turned over to her? Who has demanded heavy reparations for herself and her satellites? Who has stopped the entrance of Italy into the United Nations?

"You, Italians, will be able to answer these questions when on April 18 you will vote to smash once and for all the Moscovite fifth column. In this act will the salvation and the future of Italy be decided."

Italy Warned Of Communist Reign By Gen. Donovan

The people of Italy were warned by Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan, war-time head of the OSS, that a Communist dictatorship in Italy would cause the dismantling of Italian industrial plants and the shipment of workers to Russia.

The warning came on March 22 in a broadcast beamed to Italy over Radio Free Europe, a station of the World Broadcasting Foundation.

Vanni Montana, educational director of Local 88 and press director of the Italian-American Labor Council, translated the speech into Italian.

Two cable messages from Italy reported that the broadcast had been received clearly in that country.



By WILA ALAN
Special to "Justice"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—If anybody has failed to notice that almost nobody these days is speaking enthusiastically in favor of Harry Truman, it might be because of the din made by all the loud denunciations of the President recently. The fact

that no important group in the nation has raised a loud voice in answer to these denunciations appears to have caught the President and his closest advisers by surprise.

Recently, friends of Harry Truman, more worried than they are willing to admit by the downward plunge of the President's political popularity, have been going around Washington button-holing labor people, in particular, and asking why labor has not come to Truman's defense. They remind labor people of the President's stand on the Taft-Hartley Act, on price control, on civil rights, on the Marshall Plan . . . and ask with hurt and puzzled looks in their eyes what's the matter with Truman? Truman's friends seem to expect that labor would be enthusiastic about the President, and appear genuinely startled that it isn't quite so.

It would be going much too far to say even that labor has made up its mind about Harry Truman, but it is that labor is against him. But there is undoubted truth in the observations of Truman's friends that labor is not quite full of vim and vigor about Harry.

The trouble with the job of being President is that the poor fellow practically lives within an iron curtain, and his friends are against him. But there is undoubted truth in the observations of Truman's friends that labor is not quite full of vim and vigor about Harry.

The President appears to have two main cocirculator advisers and he appears to be too easily swayed by both sides. Take the Palestine issue, for example. Harry Truman had two advisers on the subject, one in the White House and one in the State Department. One advised partition of Palestine, the other advised a UN trusteeship over Palestine. At this point Harry Truman has followed the advice of both. Jews are not the only ones who are embittered and shocked by that kind of performance, and are looking around for someone else.

The way in which the President dealt with Henry Wallace was precisely the same. First he upheld him and then he kicked him out of the Cabinet. Truman dealt the same way with labor. Not so long ago he wanted to put the railroad workers in uniform in order to end a strike, and then he made a last ditch fight against the Taft-Hartley Act.

In those days, President Truman has succeeded at various times in cooling the enthusiasm of one important group after another. And at no time has he succeeded in winning the wholehearted allegiance of any group. As a political fence-mender, Harry Truman is the most expert farm-boy ever raised in Missouri.

Take a recent example. Less than a week ago Serafino Romualdi, Latin-American representative of the American Federation of Labor, who until recently was a staff member of the HOWE, filed a report with President William Green which could hardly do Harry Truman any good right now with labor.

On March 30, the ninth International Conference of Western Hemisphere Republics opened in Bogota, Colombia. The Bogota conference is mainly economic in character. It directly affects, therefore, the



welfare of workers throughout the Americas.

Romualdi asked the State Department that the AFL be given a place as delegate or adviser in the United States delegation to Bogota. This request was turned down by the State Department. There was lack of housing facilities in Bogota! And this despite the fact that only three months ago President Green was assured by White House spokesmen that there was no reason why the established precedent of labor representation at Latin-American conferences should not be adhered to this time.

Nor is this the first time that the State Department has resisted giving organized labor any entrance into the State Department. Not long ago, the serious proposal was made in the highest councils of the State Department that special political advisers in international labor affairs be appointed to the Secretary of State and to the chiefs of the five geographical divisions. This idea was killed.

Maybe somebody ought to tell Harry Truman that not only is this not the way to make friends

Let Your Tears

By HAVA KHARCOFF

A constant and deep stream, your tears shed alone
Are lost in the sands of your private grief,
Never destined to sweep the monster current
That is the Cain-wild, unslaked, new.

But shed your tears into the stream of the Many weepers. And make your Lamentation swell the multiple tear-waters to an Impenetrable sea of fire which must soon draw rain-calls of this maddened world.

and influence people, but also it is not the way to instill wholehearted enthusiasm for Harry Truman's candidacy. But who is going to get past the iron curtain to tell him these day-to-day facts of life?

In every one of the European countries with whom the United States is dealing on the Marshall Plan, American diplomats are talking with labor people and national leaders who came out of the labor movement. But not a single one of the American representatives talks the same language as the European labor people.

At the Bogota Conference, several Latin-American countries, among them Venezuela and Chile, will be represented by delegations which include labor people—but not the United States.

In the case of the Taft-Hartley Act, where President Truman really could not do anything because the anti-labor Republican majority in Congress was in the drivers seat, there Harry Truman tried to be tactically.

But in a case where Truman is in the driver's seat, where he can do something simply by ordering Secretary Marshall to give organized labor a voice in European and Latin-American problems which vitally affect the millions of American workers, there President Truman is strangely failing to get up at all.

It is this odd kind of inconsistency of policy and behavior which fails to instill in labor a wholehearted enthusiasm for Harry Truman which, on the contrary, succeeds only in puzzling labor and flinging it with doubts.



"THE SEARCHER" is perhaps the most deeply felt and truly touching picture of our era. Dealing with the wreckage of a European displaced children whose lives were wrecked by war, the film is bound to provide a profound emotional experience. It does so with such honest compassion and reality as to compel a resolute factor of the issue: What are the American people going to do to enable these broken youngsters to grow up as decent and democratic human beings?

The story depicts the heart-rending search of a Czech DP mother for her lost little son, resulting from one camp to another until she is practically sure to find his death. Meanwhile, the lad has been picked up by UNRRA workers. De-



spite the care he is given, the memories of Nazi cruelty prevent him—like all other surviving children—from placing faith in any stranger. This is a group with genuine fear of the unknown, and their escape from the American Bell Cross ambulance under the impression that it is taking them to a gas chamber.

The cast, consisting of both American and European players, is virtually beyond praise for its absolutely realistic portrayal of one of the bitterest aspects of mankind's present plight. This is a film—and a lesson—that no one can afford to miss.

"BITTING PRETTY" is a comedy of unusual cleverness. It treats the problem of baby-sitters with a tongue-in-cheek consistency that will tickle even the most harassed parents—if they can get out some evening to see this picture.

The story tells of the havoc that comes when some parents, in desperation, hire as "attier" a man who needs a temporary job. It turns out that he considers himself an unrecognized genius, and he uses his eccentric powers to intimidate the children, terrorize the parents and mystify the neighbors. Eventually, of course, his antics prove to be invaluable to all concerned.

Clifton Webb plays the key role with superbly supercilious skill. Robert Young and Maureen O'Hara are swell as the perturbed parents.

"THE MIRACLE OF THE BELLS" is another one of these attempts to exploit religious feelings for melodramatic purposes. Aside from its downright impiety, the film remains a muddle and mummy affair.

The story deals with a press agent who guided a girl from a Pennsylvania mining town in her race from the church to stardom. However, she dies just as success comes and is taken home to be buried. In love with her memory, the press agent plans a stunt to establish her name for posterity. The trick coincides with a sudden shift in the foundations of a church, causing some saints' statues to topple. Obviously, this sits both pious and publicity—but the entertainment effect is the equivalent of attending a long funeral service.

For the record, Fred MacMurray, Alida Valli and Prad Sinagra are in it.



From store sales come orders provide work at the sewing machine cutting table. As sales go so one reason why any garment worker work that may free his way in one-month months should have kept his eye on the nation's cash registers during the past few weeks as Easter season sales reached their peak.

For retailers it was a bad week. Sales at the beginning of March were below the level for the same pre-Easter period last year. A combination of unfavorable weather and rising consumer resistance to price depressed sales.

Then, shortly before the fast 10-day period, the weather changed, sales perked up and were rising as Easter dawned. There seemed to be a gradual wearing down of consumer resistance as the holiday pressures increased.

The pattern of garment sales, however, remained unchanged. Its significance lies in the fact that when sales are measured by the number of dollars they bring into retailers' coffers, they are good. More dollars are coming in.

But when sales are measured by the number of garments that they move off the store racks, they are not so good. Few garments are moving off the racks.

Clearly, the sale price of garments continues to rise and in the face of steady price resistance will mean no change in the caution with which buyers for stores have been coming to market.

What happens after Easter is just as important as what went before. For one thing there will be less panic mark-downs of garment prices this year. The policy of buyers has been to place orders due to sales. Inventory, if not at a minimum, has been kept at a low level.

For this reason the "flood" that generally comes with post-Easter clearance sales will be reduced. Furthermore, there is consolation for those who sorrow over smaller unit sales in the fact that because these sales were smaller it is possible that they will be steadier.

The consumer stores unwilling to stock up on garments. Here is still the hope that they may be able to protect the pocket-book by carefully doling out sales as the necessity for doing so grows keen.

The best hope of manufacturers and retailers of garments would seem to be the encouragement of a steady level of sales, the minimization of fluctuations in market demand, and the use of the importance of this aim. Some are already drawing plans for special promotions. The likelihood of these promotions will seek to take the consumer's eye off the price tag by ballooning the value to be found in the garment.

It is interesting to speculate on how the trade may attempt to meet increased pressure for the fall retailing season. It is interesting to speculate on how the trade may attempt to meet increased pressure for the fall retailing season. It is interesting to speculate on how the trade may attempt to meet increased pressure for the fall retailing season.

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"I Used to Vote . . ."



MARKET

RON STEIN

orders for garments which later machine, pressing board and so go the work tickets. That is worker anxious about the volume of

toward the converter and the mills. So far these factors have followed a policy of tacking in the wind of those preferences so that when the consumer wanted hot they gave cold and when the consumer said, "All right, let it be cold," they gave hot.

But purchasing and purchasing power are running out. It is getting harder to continue the fancy footwork that keeps the consumer confused. In too many cases consumers are beginning to say, "You can keep the shirt. I'll wait for what I want."

The warning that when price competition grows sharp it is time for the worker in the shop to watch for sniping at earnings doesn't wear out. It is most tempting to employees to seek a cost differential in the pay envelope of the worker.

Even industry leaders in the oldest section of the garment making community are not entirely immune to this temptation. New York's cloak industry is approaching the time for renewal of its collective agreement. There will be consid-

ered in coming negotiations a number of improvements listed in the March 13 issue of "Justice."

Late last month, however, a spokesman for one of the employer associations issued what he termed an emphatic "no" to the union's proposals.

Along with this rejection came the affirmation that in spite of all changes the price of coats and suits are not out of line with value given.

Where in his statement did the employer spokesman tell how any single one or combination of the several proposals made by the union would work hardship on either the consumer or on the industry. Instead, not one of these demands are either considered in detail or even mentioned in the statement that appeared in the trade press.

Yet the whole series of proposals was rejected in toto. The union, it was implied, is not even one single, little bit in the right. Instead, the employer is asked to bear the brunt of the coming contract to be able to one day thus opening the way to instability through constant bargaining, hickering and uncertainty.

Piles of profits have been made through inflated prices the consumer has been compelled to pay. An industry seeking to maintain proper pricing should seek to reduce prices not through depressing labor but by compelling the surrender of the dollar loot from which new American fortunes have sprung.

BOOK FRONT



OUR PARTNERSHIP. By Beatrice Webb, Langman, Green and Co. \$5.

Here is a part of a great story of our century. The partnership it describes is between Beatrice and Sidney Webb who in the early years of this century labored to win the world from the evils of the capitalist system in England and with their own toil fashioned a tremendous part of the facts and data in which the Labor Party of today finds its secure foundations.

What these two people accomplished was unique. Drawn from different strata of British life, they joined forces in a happy combination in which one seemed to provide the spark, the other the fuel for many an intellectual and humanitarian fire.

Out of their team work, crusading, and meticulously bolstered by gathered facts, figures, history and



the harvest of back-breaking research, came the Fabian Society and the London School of Economics, the campaign for women's suffrage, magnification of the poor law, reform of the social system and the early growth of the British Labor Party.

Through its pages, some of them in diary form, march many of England's great prime ministers, politicians and philosophers. Here are the young Shaw and H. G. Wells, pointed pictures of Nestlé Churchill and a shrewd Lloyd George.

The finest aspect of it all, perhaps, is the great love these two shared through their work. Each seemed to know the other's strength and weakness. "Our Partnership" begins with a chapter entitled "The Other" which is Beatrice's clear-eyed portrait of her husband, her colleague, her friend who—with all of his faults—remained for her night the most perfect of lovers, by right and by deed, in work and in play, in health and in sickness."

This volume records only a part of their life together; period from 1892 to 1911. This was the period of great fruitfulness when with the best tools of scholarship and research they cleared the path for fundamental reform. Together they labored for a better life for Britain and abroad, and together they led the leaders of that people upon whom no great a part of the burden of safeguarding democracy rests today.

SPOTLIGHT ON A UNION. By Donald R. Robinson. The Dial Press. \$3.50.

In midlife's hot should be the label which testifies that her headgear has been made by the skilled men and women who are members of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union. Behind that label is the story of a relatively small group of determined workers fighting their way out of the sweatshops, battling against exploitation and government by injunction in order to establish decent standards in the industry from which they draw their livelihood.

The Hatters' Union is one of the oldest unions in the country. It is

Nostalgia

By MAX FREES

The great, black rocks reach out to meet,
And swift winged sea birds dart and flee,
And Beauty sings eternally

In lands that roam the shores but still.

Somewhere it seems I only hear
The silt of leaves upon a mill
And woodland waters running clear.

Beyond this limbo of vast seas and skies,
Beyond the range of tide and wind,
I see a street where lamps arise,
And shapes that move across a mile.

One of the few in which the early influx of refugee liberals and revolutionaries from the Old World fostered profound understanding among the members of the community behind the agenda of a union meeting and the political framework within which the mission to economic and social life must be sought.

Don Robinson tells the story with all of the insight and excitement it deserves. His pen portraits of Hatters' President Max Zaritsky, Alex Rose, William Green as well as such leaders of an earlier day as Oompers and De Leon are not only accurate but spirited.

The whole rough, inspiring saga of organized labor in America is, as in a concave mirror, reflected in the story of the Hatters.

There are few chapters in American labor history which can match the epic struggle of the Hatters in what has come to be known as the Danbury Hatters case. More than three decades have passed since workers paid with their homes and their savings as the result of employer Loebe's triumph in the courts. Yet the sense of legal limits of boycotting on which the case was decided is again the subject of public debate and court action.

Don Robinson throws a brilliant light on a union whose in its dedication to the finest ideals of American life is only further proof that organized labor in America, through unity of purpose, can overcome resistance and obstacles in its march toward a full measure of economic and social justice.

In 1946, in a nation such as ours, making claims to world leadership as we do, such a state of affairs is a disgrace. It is bad enough that the nation is inadequately served with doctors, that in some areas there is only one doctor to every 1,400 of 1,500 patients. But when to this is added deliberate restriction of the number of doctors upon the basis of "racial" selection, then we have added vicious evil to social disgrace.

What's Killing Vaudeville



SUSAN WHITE

Just how democratic is this democracy of ours?

A statement by Oscar R. Ewing, Federal Security Administrator, forces us to ask this question. He says, "As you probably know, the New York City Council in 1946 appointed a Special Committee to study the difficulties of City College graduates—many Jewish—in obtaining professional education."

"In investigation into medical training at two outstanding schools ran into initial difficulties because applications for admission in previous years had been stopped."

"At one of the medical schools



surveyed, 50 per cent of the entrants had come from City College of New York in 1926. Between 1934 and 1940 the average was less than 1 1/2 per cent, 11 out of 801 admissions in that ten-year period.

"In the other medical school," he graduates of City College applied for admission in 1944, 1945 and '46. Thirty-seven of them had averages of 'A minus' or better. Eight were accepted, four of them by order of the U. S. Army."

"This is far from being wholly a regional problem. It comes near home. I am told only about six out of New York City's more than a hundred hospitals opened internships and residencies to Negroes. Or take another nearby example. A survey in one community in the New York metropolitan area showed none of its seven fully-qualified Negro physicians is permitted to treat his cases in local hospitals."

Mr. Ewing made these statements as a progressive citizen, pointing out the need for the extension of Federal aid to medical education. More doctors, he claims, are what the country needs. He might never deny that we prefer to maintain an even more urgent than the need for more doctors is the need for every man and woman in this society to realize his thinking on race and minority questions.

If, anywhere in the United States, one single university is denied admission into any Institute of learning because of his color or his race, then the nation has not yet achieved democracy. If in any hospital in the land, a patient is denied admission for treatment, or a doctor is refused the right to employ that hospital's facilities on the grounds of racial or religious discrimination, then the men responsible are themselves unfit to practice in a democratic community.

This is America's number one problem. No other in the land approaches it in importance or significance to our nation. If, as we claim, democracy is the best and the breathing spirit of our people, the message which we intend to carry all over the globe, we had better be sure that we practice it here at home.

Not until the very last vestige of discrimination has been eliminated forever, until the very thoughts of such a practice seems unnatural to the very skin of us Americans, can we feel that we have even begun to set our own house in order.

Join Generosity!

SOUTHWEST

MEYER PERLSTEIN, Southwest Regional Director

Juvenile M'f'g Workers Get 8% Raise After Arbitration

Dr. B. F. Pittenger, arbitrator in the San Antonio wage dispute, last week notified the Juvenile Manufacturing Co. of his decision granting a general wage increase of 8 per cent to both time and piece workers, retroactive to Nov. 1, 1947. All wage standards, including piece rates and minimum scales, will be adjusted accordingly.

Hearings in the San Antonio arbitration case ended on March 18 following two full days of testimony by spokesmen for the Juvenile Manufacturing Co. and ILOUW representatives.

Testifying for the union were Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, Dr. Lazare Taper, ILOUW research director, Dr. William Gorman, head of the ILOUW Management-Engineering Department, Rebecca Taylor, manager of the San Antonio Joint Board, Gladys Winters, her assistant, and a committee of workers.

The firm was represented by its executives, a staff of lawyers, accountants and industrial engineers.

The original request for a wage increase was presented several months ago to the San Antonio Manufacturers' Assoc., which consisted of nine manufacturers. Since that time, however, the association has dissolved so that the union was forced to initiate arbitration proceedings against individual employers.

After the request for an increase was refused.

At the Juvenile hearings, the company argued that the increase should be denied because workers' earnings have increased during the last 18 months and the firm has initiated a group bonus system. Under this bonus plan, the firm said, workers have an opportunity to earn more if the production of a given group is increased to a certain level determined by the company.

Bonus Shown Faulty

Through questioning, union spokesmen were able to show that the bonus did not assure higher earnings to workers. The bonus was to be paid only if each department as a whole turned out more work than the quota set. If some workers were absent or the manufacturer failed to get his piece goods or to maintain production, or if the machine broke down during the period, the bonus would be lost for the entire group, even though the individual worker might have produced more than before.

The union also contended that increased earnings due to the efforts of the workers cannot be substituted for a general cost-of-living adjustment.

Legalistic objections raised by company attorneys were fully refuted by Vice Pres. Perlstein. Taper exposed numerous errors in the figures compiled and presented by the industrial engineers hired by the firm.

Before the proceedings adjourned, the union's representatives introduced Father Luther, a prominent Catholic dignitary, who related to the arbitrator the general conditions of the workers in that community.

Approximately 400 workers are employed by the firm.

Local 398 Meets on Its Pledge to Aid Hospital

Dan Foster, prominent citizen of Belleville, Ill., addressed a meeting of Local 398 on March 3 in behalf of the drive for funds which organized labor has pledged for a hospital in St. Clair County.

May 28 has been set as the date for Local 398's annual dance and social gathering.

KANSAS CITY SILK WORKERS WIN RISE EFFECTIVE FEB. 15

After many weeks of negotiations, the Kansas City silk dress manufacturers agreed to a contract providing a 10 per cent wage increase for cutters and other time workers, a 7 per cent increase for piece workers and an additional 4 per cent contribution to the health fund.

Two hundred workers will benefit from the increases which are retroactive to Feb. 15. The 7 per cent boost for piece workers will be added to total weekly earnings.

The union affirmed the escalator clause in the agreement with all those firms to prove for wage increases as the cost of living steadily advanced.

The firms which signed are: Lee Dresses, Inc.; Quality Hosiery Dress Co.; Lee, Marlene Dress & Millinery; Pashoban; and Bettison Sportswear.

Meanwhile conferences continue in Kansas City with a number of individual dress manufacturers.

Twin Cities Board Okays Wage Boost By 17 Minn. Firms

The Twin Cities Joint Board has voted unanimous approval of the wage increases now in effect in agreements with five coat-and-suit and twelve silk dress manufacturers in Minneapolis.

The increases, which became effective March 1, consisted of \$3 a week for cutters, \$3 for all other time workers, and a 5 per cent increase for piece workers to be added to the total weekly earnings of each.

The dock-and-suit manufacturers who signed were Burnett Coat Co.; K.S.K. Pashoban; Ben Solomon Coat; Paramount Coat and Trim World Fashion.

The silk dress firms were Ladine's, Leader Garment Co., Carole-Anne Manufacturing Co., Graceful Modes, Jean Laing Dress Co., Judy Ann Frocks, Glette Originals, Jeanette Frocks Manufacturing Co., Mar-Dor Dress, Charles Pryman Dress, Style-Size Dress, Vanity Dress and Stryker Dress Co.

Winnipeg, Man. Max Rotenberg, an NLRB attorney, came here March 15 to investigate the unfair labor practice complaint, filed by the ILOUW against a number of local manufacturers.

Negotiation continue on renewal of the agreement with Hoot and Son. The firm's only offer has been a 5 per cent wage increase, which was unacceptable to the workers. Hoot and Son and a committee of workers are representing the union in the negotiations.

San Antonio to Open 3rd S. W. Medical Center

Another milestone on the road to better health for workers will be passed with the opening of a third Southwest health center, in San Antonio, Tex., on April 2. Civic and labor notables have been invited to inspect the new facilities on the day of the dedication.

Portion of from the rest of the offices in union headquarters, the center occupies half the premises. It has been remodelled, painted and furnished for the opening, and will begin treatment of patients immediately.

St. Louis Serves 929

Reports from the St. Louis Health Center for the month of February show that 929 patients from 90 different shops made a total of 1,608 visits to the center. At the same time, 50 cancellations and 77 broken appointments were recorded.

Pointing out that broken appointments are a serious handicap to the efficient operation of the institution, the staff appealed to members who cannot keep appointments to notify the center immediately. In this way, time will not be wasted and more patients can be treated.

The Dallas Health Center reports 750 visits during February with 11 cancellations and 30 broken appointments.

Dist. Coun. 2 Celebrates Its First Anniversary

Celebration of the first anniversary of District Council 2, consisting of workers employed in all Puget City shops, was held in St. Louis on March 6. The council's officers described the success achieved in building union action on the workers and outlined future plans.

Eula Caron of Local 328, St. Louis, is president of the council and Ella Barth of Local 353, Collinsville, Ill., is secretary.

Collinsville Kegler Quintet



Top scoring bowlers of Local 335 in Collinsville, Ill., are (left to right) Lorraine Senn, Claribel Clark, Elmer Wrigley, Marie Graham and Elsie Barth.

Arbitration Looms as Boost In St. Louis Sportswear Pends

Unless an agreement can be reached soon between the union and manufacturers in the St. Louis sportswear and embroidery industry on a wage increase, the union has announced it will call for action by the Board of Arbitration. About 1,500 workers will be affected by the outcome of the negotiations.

Southwest Shorts

The life and philosophy of Moheane Oapth, famous Indian pacifist, was discussed at a joint shop stewards institute conference sponsored by the St. Louis education committee recently. Sherwood Eddy, noted author and lecturer, was the speaker.

The activist group of Local 36, St. James, Mo., has been invited to execute a series of paintings to be displayed in the local high school. Two art teachers from the high school have joined the ILO class and invited Eva Chambers, regional secretary director, to assist them with their studies.

A total of \$187 was collected by Local 114, Houston, Tex., to cover hospital bills for Mary Route, an active member, who recently underwent a delicate operation. Members of Local 214 were grieved to learn of the death of Lores Graham who had been a devoted member of the union.

Local 383, Sparta, Ill., voted last month to arrange a social gathering on the 10th anniversary of the organization in Minneapolis. Local 230, Cotton Dressmakers, will hear him at their next regular meeting.

Members of Local 396, Little Rock, Ark., expressed grief at the untimely death of Pannie Wilkins, a fellow member, who died on Feb. 23. Both Pashoban and the members of the Midland Cooperative, addressed Minneapolis Local 206, Dressmakers, last month on the progress of the contract negotiations in Minneapolis. Local 230, Cotton Dressmakers, will hear him at their next regular meeting.

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The union has invoked the escalator clause in the existing agreement. Several conferences have stressed the increased cost of living as justification for a substantial increase in workers' earnings.

Management spokesmen promised to reply shortly.

Other developments in the Missouri area include the following: Salisbury. An upward revision in the minimum wage scale for pressers at the Salisbury Manufacturing Co., bringing them into line with the minimum paid operators, was negotiated by Wava Tobin and Maurine Montgomery of the Southwestern at a conference on March 16.

St. Louis. An agreement covering a new embroidery shop was signed by Fritz Rottler, manager of the Cotton Dress Joint Board, last month.

Rice-Stix Talks Aaked

The union has requested the Rice-Stix Dry Goods Co. to set a conference date to negotiate wage increase of an average of 10 per cent for the workers in the firm's plant at St. James, Mo. The request was initiated under the escalator provision of the existing agreement.

700 WORKERS IN DALLAS SET PACE WITH 5 HOLIDAYS

For the first time in the history of the garment industry in Dallas, Tex., paid legal holidays have been established for the 700 production workers employed at the Nardie Sportswear Co., largest garment firm in the city.

Effective June 1, time workers as well as piece workers will receive pay for five holidays, as the result of an agreement reached with the firm on March 12.

Negotiations continue for wage increases for the Nardie workers, according to Regional Director Meyer Perlstein.

The establishment of paid holidays sets the pace in that community. It is reported since five holidays have been previously observed. Holiday pay for piece workers will be based on their average hourly earnings.

Gernes Employees Donate Wheelchair To Kans. Veterans

Another electric wheel chair will be sent to veterans at the Wadsworth, Kans. It goes thanks to the generosity of workers at the Gernes Garment Co., Kansas City.

Following the example set earlier by the Kansas City Hospital, in donating a wheel chair, Gernes employees will purchase a second chair with surplus funds originally raised to erect a plaque to the memory of A. B. Gernes.

Other contributions made by Southwest affiliates in recent months include the following: Members of Local 210, Ponca City, Okla., gave \$47.50 to the infantile paralysis fund.

A \$10 check was forwarded to the Veterans Memorial Hospital Building Fund by Local 444, Stanton, Ill.

The executive board of Local 275, Winnebago, Ill., added the United Nations Appeal for Children with a donation.

Pickets Warm Cold Dogs After Giving Boss Hot Foot



Herkimer, N. Y., pickets warm up at bonfire made of placards used during their week-long "holiday" to protest delaying tactics by Derby Sportswear in renewing the agreement with Local 345.

700 Johnstown, Pa., Workers Get a 10% Overall Increase

Although the collective agreement with the Goldstein and Levin Co. of Johnstown, Pa., will not expire before June 15, negotiations for terms for a renewed contract have been completed, it is announced by Vice Pres. David Gingold. Featured is a wage increase that will become effective April 1, while other terms will begin after the expiration date.

The 700 workers employed in the three Goldstein and Levin plants in the Johnstown area have won a number of cost-of-living wage adjustments during the effective period of the current contract.

The need for another such adjustment was the direct cause for the initiation of talks with the firm several weeks ago. During these talks it was decided to consider the full range of contract terms for the purpose of renewal but to make the wage adjustment effective before the expiration date.

Overall Gain

Improvements in the contract include a boost in holiday benefits and other gains but the chief feature is the manner in which the wage gain is to be made effective. On an all-over basis the amount of that gain is 10 per cent.

Union and shop negotiators, headed by Field Supervisor Jack Halpern, however, recognized that special arrangements for allocating the increase were necessary to surmount the differences in style and pricing in the company's product line.

The firm produces several lines of garments. These include popular priced cotton garments as well as garments utilizing Bomberg's and other synthetic fabrics. From experience, Goldstein and Levin workers have learned that differences in the nature of the fabric used are reflected for them in differences in the difficulty of the workmanship involved even when cotton styles are heavier than those yielded by the rayons. And starting in April, the bulk of the work in rayon, it is reported by District Manager Michael Johnson.

Engineering Involved

The ILGWU Management-Engineering Department has been called in to make studies that will serve to guide the allocation of the 10 per cent wage increase so that it falls heaviest on those garments where it will mean the most in terms of higher earnings.

Paternalism

On the other hand it has also been noticed that these improvements, in productivity as well as earnings, have not completely eradicated vestiges of paternal rule that flourished in the plant before the advent of the ILGWU.

At one time, management seemed to be fostering rivalries among groups of workers in order to weaken their bargaining power. Rampant favoritism and carefully stimulated feuds kept membership in constant turmoil and prevented the development of unity in the workers' ranks.

At present the ILGWU still must contend with problems of control and enforcement. The Goldstein and Levin plants are more than 200 miles from the nearest ILGWU office. Old-style feuds among the members still flare up from time to time. There is a sharp tendency among some of the workers to blame the union for all that goes wrong.

Nevertheless the story also indicates that the union is making gains in which the renewal last month is the latest but not the last chapter.

\$5,692 for Polio Campaign Collected by Northeast'ers

Members of Northeast Department locals earlier this year responded with their traditional generosity to the appeal to fight infantile paralysis. Complete reports received at the New York office of the department indicate that \$5,692 was collected for the 1948 March of Dimes of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, it is announced by Director David Gingold.

The fight against the dread disease which the late Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt led and which remains close to the hearts of all Americans was this year carried forward with great vigor by ILGWU members in Northeast territory.

Setting the pace for the drive were workers at the Movie Star Co. plant in Allentown who hit the top for individual contributions by turning in \$150—about \$1 a worker.

Following is the list of contributors:

Pennsylvania

A total of \$2,643 was contributed in this area.

Locals 111 & 437, Allentown—\$933.19; Locals 224 & 340, Easton—\$100.00; Local 312, Harrisburg—\$68.80; Local 323, Hazleton—\$201.13; Local 354, Pottsville—\$28.85; Local 38, Reading—\$139.65; Local 365, Scranton—\$298.49; Locals 100 & 131, Scranton—\$447.13;

Local 185, Shamokin—\$130.67; Local 304, Sunbury—\$85; Local 348, Wilkes-Barre—\$54.91.

N. Y. & Vermont

A total of \$1,131 was collected in this area.

Local 200, Auburn—\$201.13; Local 321 & 342, Binghamton—\$1,230.60; Local 343, Herkimer—\$74; Local 360, Honesdale—\$28.32; Local 371, Hornell—\$40; Local 414, Oswego—\$60.55; Local 170, Utica—\$407.15; Local 173, Walton—\$24.90; Local 185, Whitehall—\$77.95.

N. W. England

A total of \$588 was collected in this area.

Local 24, Boston—\$243.35; Local 239, Boston—\$115.95; Local 391, Boston—\$447.13; Local 397, Boston—\$40; Local 254 & 381, Lowell—\$217.85; Local 297, Milford—\$104.25.

N. J. & Delaware

A total of \$139 was collected in this area.

Local 217, Trenton—\$60.95; Local 238, Wilmington—\$60.25.

13% "Packaged" Boost Wins Praise of Dutchess Workers

Employees of the Dutchess Underwear Co. of Old Forge, Pa., enthusiastically endorsed terms of a new agreement announced at their membership meeting on March 23. Agreement on the new terms was reached during a meeting with company representatives in the New York office of Director David Gingold on March 20. Also present was Field Supervisor Jack Halpern who headed the union's negotiation committee.

The announcement of the terms at the Old Forge membership meeting was made by Welfare Supervisor William Ross who joined Halpern and Gingold in the final stages of the negotiations.

The sweeping action taken by the meeting in support of the gains won by the union was taken by many as a rebuff to a small but astute group, among the 500 workers involved, which has sought to create a peaceful settlement of differences during negotiations.

New Terms

The new terms on which agreement has been reached include an overall increase of 13 per cent in the operating department and a similar increase of 9 per cent for finishers and other crafts. According to Vice Pres. David Gingold, the increase will be applied to remove inequities among styles and crafts.

Still to be determined is the amount of the increase to be given to dyers, knitters and other specialists. This is because of the nature of these crafts. George Belcher of Local 280, Sayre, has been called in to make a study to provide the formula for the increase.

At negotiations the company pleaded the uncertainty of current apparel market conditions as the reason for its reluctance to meet all requests of the union. Nevertheless, it ultimately agreed to the wage improvements, to shifting the base for calculating vacation benefits from minimum rates to average earnings, to the establishment of five paid holidays and to increasing by 10 per cent the contribution to the health fund.

"Package"

The entire "package" of improvements is the equivalent of a 13 per cent increase, it is estimated by Director Gingold.

The agreement with Dutchess selected March 21. Negotiations for the new terms were thus held well in advance of that date to provide full time for complete consideration of terms.

The two months preceding the meeting in Vice Pres. Gingold's office, negotiations were conducted without any apparent advance toward a settlement. This situation persisted in spite of the fact that virtually the full roster of Northeast Department members participated in the efforts to remove satisfactory terms. District Manager Elmer Grant and Hugh Mahoney were also involved in negotiations.

Willful Minority

The immediate cause of the stalemate in negotiations was the communist-like tactics of a small number of workers who seemed more determined to precipitate a strike than to gain as much as the majority was content to negotiate major gains without resorting to strikes.

The existence of this group has constantly fostered a "tough" attitude even when it has been clear that much could be gained through collective bargaining. This false militancy provided an atmosphere of excitement in which the bel-

low members of the shop seemed to thrive.

Some believe it is the result of a labor policy that flourished in the plant when the ILGWU first stepped in some seven years ago. At that time, after a hard-won strike, the union entered the plant to find that a Prussian discipline prevailed along with extremely low earnings.

By their overwhelming demonstration in favor of the terms negotiated by the Northeast Department of the Dutchess Underwear Co., have clearly shown that they are weary of the constant disruptions fostered by the presence of grippers in their midst. With their endorsement of the new agreement terms they have cleared the way for mature consideration of all industry problems affecting their earnings and welfare.

27,000 MORE IN NORTHEAST TO USE HEALTH FACILITIES

A total of 60,000 Northeast members will receive medical services with the completion of new health centers and the extension of the Health Survey Program in additional districts. It is announced by Supervisor William Ross. This will mean an increase of 37,000 members to be serviced.

The Update New York and Hazleton districts are the latest to use the survey program, originally developed in Harrisburg, Pa. It was also utilized by the Shamokin and Pottsville districts. Dr. James Bloom who developed the program in Harrisburg is assisting in the extension of the survey plans in Update New York. Manager Harry Schneider is cooperating with Bloom in developing the program in Hazleton.

Medical technicians have been selected and will be trained for a three-month period in schools for medical secretaries which was recently organized by Bloom.

The construction of health centers in Wilkes-Barre and Sayre is now in the final stages. Plans are afoot to celebrate a double opening of these health centers in Pennsylvania in June. The centers in Boston are now completed and construction is to start soon. Thus the work begun with establishment of the health center in Fall River three years ago will be extended this year to three additional areas.

Program Is Popular

That union members have been taking seriously the Survey of the health survey was indicated in a re-check conducted by Bloom. Nearly all who were advised to seek medical services with the health centers in the district had done so. The exceptions were two members who promised to meet their funds.

The health and welfare funds have distinguished themselves in each benefit. Important as this money has been to the members, it is the medical service which has been the most appreciated not only by our members but also by the medical profession and the general public.

Twin Cities Bd. Gives Prizes to 2 Students in Steward's Class

Prizes were awarded the two outstanding students attending the first Shop Stewards Training Class sponsored by the Twin Cities Joint Board, and certificates of merit went to those who successfully completed the course, according to Marie Jeffries, the board's education director. A second training class is now in progress.

Those receiving prizes for the highest marks on examination papers and attendance in the first group were Clara Kollgren of Western Underwear Co., who is president of the joint board and of Local 268, and Lulu Lint, former shop steward at Carol Anne Dress and president of Local 266. Their rewards were \$10 and \$5 respectively.

Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein opened the course in the fall. Subject matter included the structure and functioning of the ILGWU and problems confronting the union's representative in the shop.

Members' Class Full

The new members' class sponsored by the joint board has been highly successful. To make sure that all pertinent material would be covered, the following schedule was set up:

First Tuesday of the month—why garment workers need a union, history of union movement, structure and functioning of the union.

Second Tuesday—highlights of ILGWU history.

Third Tuesday—why dues and assessments are necessary, the scope of health and welfare benefits.

Fourth Tuesday—labor problems, contracts, negotiations and price controls.

Teachers for these sessions have been Michael Finkelstein, manager of the joint board, Dolores Johnson, secretary, and Marie Jeffries.

ROSE BRESLAW TALK BRINGS PRESSERS' ADOPTIONS TO 25

The adoption of 25 European children, through the efforts of Local 25, Cloak Pressers, was announced by its executive board on March 18.

Special aid was rendered by Mrs. Rose Breslaw, wife of the local's manager. She had appeared to a meeting of the board on behalf of the Jewish Labor Committee campaign for displaced children. Her talk resulted in a letter meeting which one child was adopted by the local, two by the executive board, one by the "old timers," and one by the business agent.

Mrs. Breslaw also brought to the executive board meeting 20 checks collected in various cloak shops.

Cloak Dance

The Cloak Pressers' dance at the Hotel Diplomat on March 12 was a great success. About 1,000 people crowded into the dance hall and enjoyed the music, floor show and general festivities. Many men and daughters of members came down to get a first-hand view of the local in action.

Wednesday evening classes for pressers have been highly successful, with a good attendance from newer members of the local.

Among the speakers have been Max Carolinsky, Barney Jacobs, Max Goldstein, A. Rutin and Ben Moser.

BEAUTY AND POLITICS IN ILGWU EDUCATION

Local 40, Bellmakers, will feature a beauty course given by representatives of Elizabeth Arden's Beauty Salon in a four-week series starting April 6. Demonstration-lectures will deal with acquiring skin beauty, "figure don't lie," the art of make-up, and hair and hair-dos.

This marks the first appearance of Arden representatives before a trade union audience. Members of other ILGWU locals are invited to sit in on the demonstrations, which are to be given in cooperation with the Central Educational Department. Sessions start at 8 P.M. each Tuesday in April.

Local 66, Embroidery Workers, announces that Andrew J. Biemiller, former Congressman from Wisconsin, will be the principal speaker at its membership meeting on April 12 at 5:30 P.M. Biemiller, now director of political action for American Party for Democratic Action, will discuss Wallace's third party, asking whom it will benefit, whether it will help the people of struggling reaction, and why organized labor is opposed to a third party at this time. The meeting will be held at P. M. 17, 228 W. 48 St., between 8th and 9th Aves.

"The Local 143 News" is the title of a new bulletin which went to shop chairpersons and chairmen of Local 143, Neckwear Workers' last month. Copies are being distributed in the kits distributed by the Central Educational Department containing samples of timely education material.

The bulletin has this to say to the shop leaders: "Maybe you never thought of it that way, but being a shop chairman makes you a mighty important person in the union. The existence of the local depends a great deal on your ability to cooperate with your business agent and the local officers. The union depends on you to keep things running smoothly in the shop."

This story can, of course, be duplicated by the thousands. In his case, as in thousands of others, the "doctor-patient relationship" theory becomes meaningless if not silly.

The very morning I read the announcement of the institution's position I ran into a friend who operates a small cleaning and dyeing store in my neighborhood. On this particular morning he told me he had just cashed the last of \$400 in government bonds, all of which went to pay hospital bills incurred while his wife had a gall bladder operation. No prolonged illness, no complications. Nevertheless it left him practically penniless. All his savings gone.

This story can, of course, be dup-

3 Winners in Chicago Letter Contest To Get 2-Week Institute Scholarships

Full scholarships to the two-week ILGWU summer institute held annually at the University of Wisconsin will be awarded for the three best letters written by members of the Chicago miscellaneous locals. Subject of the letters will be "What My Union Means to Me."

This opportunity to attend the summer school for ILGWU members from the Southwest and Midwest will be open to the members of Locals 54, 76, 208, 212 and 261. The University is situated on beautiful Lake Mendota at Madison and provides an ideal setting for study and recreation.

Scholarships include tuition, room and board, and transportation.

A panel of judges will select the best letters. Attention will be given to their content, rather than to the style. Personal experience should be emphasized, showing how the number became "union minded" and what happened to him as he joined and became active in the union. Letters must be limited to 300 words, written on one side of regular typewriter-sized paper (8 1/2 x 11), with ample margins.

Deadline for the contest will be announced in the April issue of "Good News," bulletin of the Chicago miscellaneous locals.

War Victim Offers Lesson in Brotherhood



Harold Russell pleads the cause of racial understanding at an ILGWU-AVC meeting in Boston. Left to right, Russell; Sam Weiner, Local 46; Milton Kaplan, Local 73; Elmer C. Foster, director of the Boston Joint Board's health department; and ILGWU Vice Pres. Philip Kramer. (Story Page 3)



By PATIENCE M. NEWMAN

The Brookings Institution is the last to join those who oppose a National Health Insurance Plan, according to the press. To some of us, this was no surprise. However, one would have supposed that the institution could have found a more tangible reason for its opposition than the

age-old, non-sensational argument about a non-existent doctor-patient relationship!

It is apparent the "learned" people who constitute this institution have yet to learn the "facts of life," at least so far as the need for adequate medical care is concerned.

The very morning I read the announcement of the institution's position I ran into a friend who operates a small cleaning and dyeing store in my neighborhood. On this particular morning he told me he had just cashed the last of \$400 in government bonds, all of which went to pay hospital bills incurred while his wife had a gall bladder operation. No prolonged illness, no complications. Nevertheless it left him practically penniless. All his savings gone.

This story can, of course, be duplicated by the thousands. In his case, as in thousands of others, the "doctor-patient relationship" theory becomes meaningless if not silly.

The way to remedy that kind of a situation is to pass a National Health Insurance Law which will solve one of the vital problems confronting the American people today. The Brookings Institution could not convince us otherwise!

Items of Interest

A National Health Assembly called by Federal Security Administrator Oscar B. Ewing will be held in Washington May 1-4. Organized labor, the Farmers' Union and the National Women's Trade Union League are represented on the executive committee which is empowered to formulate the program. The National Health Assembly is the initial step in carrying out the President's request to develop feasible national health goals for the next ten years.

The OGB Health Committee is making its "appointed rounds" at the center. We of the administrators, as well as the patients are happy to welcome its members here.

Two youngsters were discussing sickness and health. Said one, "People don't like to have you ask about their being sick, because health is your own business."

To this, the other replied, "Being sick is not a private affair, if you have malaria. A mosquito bites you, and then bites his neighbors here, and some of your malaria germs."

Now many grown-ups realize as early as this youngster that the health of an individual constitutes the entire community. A community survey to determine medical needs is so essential of preventive medicine.

Scholarships include tuition, room and board, and transportation.

A panel of judges will select the best letters. Attention will be given to their content, rather than to the style. Personal experience should be emphasized, showing how the number became "union minded" and what happened to him as he joined and became active in the union. Letters must be limited to 300 words, written on one side of regular typewriter-sized paper (8 1/2 x 11), with ample margins.

Deadline for the contest will be announced in the April issue of "Good News," bulletin of the Chicago miscellaneous locals.

Educational Center To Hear Addresses On U.S. Government

Differences between Britain's Parliament and the American Congress will be one of the points discussed by Dr. Henry David when he addresses the ILGWU Education-Recreation Center on "How Our Government Works." He will speak at two sessions, one on April 8 and again on April 15 at Textile High School, W. 18 St., between 8th and 9th Aves. (Room 504).

Dr. David will analyze the functions of Congressional committees, the powers delegated to the President and the role of the judiciary under the republican form of government. Such a discussion is considered of particular interest with national elections in the offing.

The Education-Recreation Center meets on Thursdays at 8:30 P.M.

Scholarships to College Offered by British Labor

Two scholarships at Ruskin College, Oxford, England, are being offered by the British Trades Union Congress to American students interested in labor relations. Each scholarship, worth approximately \$800, will cover tuition and room and board at the college from October 1948 to June 1949.

The scholarships are open to Americans with high school education, either college work, adult education or experience in the American labor movement. Applications should be sent to the Institute of International Relations, 2 W. 45 St., New York City.

Visits to Art Exhibits Attract Many Members

Two recent "Visits to Points of Interest" which drew particularly large crowds were trips to the Local 81 Art Gallery and the American British Art Center to view exhibits by members of the Local 81 and Local 25 art classes.

Hazleton ILG'ers Hear Talk

A group of Hazleton ILG'ers are gathered around a table, looking at a photograph. The photograph shows a group of people, possibly at a social event or a meeting. The group is diverse in age and appearance, and they are all looking towards the camera with varying degrees of interest and curiosity.

Cloak Dance

The Cloak Pressers' dance at the Hotel Diplomat on March 12 was a great success. About 1,000 people crowded into the dance hall and enjoyed the music, floor show and general festivities. Many men and daughters of members came down to get a first-hand view of the local in action.

Wednesday evening classes for pressers have been highly successful, with a good attendance from newer members of the local.

Among the speakers have been Max Carolinsky, Barney Jacobs, Max Goldstein, A. Rutin and Ben Moser.

Frances Di Marfio instructs a Local 225 class in trade unionism.

KNOW YOUR CITY

Saturday Visits to Points of Interest

April 18 at 2 P.M. Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, "Take Int" subway to South Ferry, then walk to Whitehall St. Meet at ferry entrance. Special exhibit on Staten Island and its artists.

CLOAKERS CLOAK LOCAL 10 ISIDORE NAGLER, Manager

Slowly but surely, Local 10's wage increase demands are being attained in accordance with the program launched several months ago.

These demands, based on cost-of-living escalator clauses in the agreements are being met either through direct negotiations with the employers or via arbitration decisions.

Lately to receive increases are the workers in the coat-and-bracers and snowsuit industries.

Impertial Chairman Isaac Elg-master recently handed down his anxiously awaited decision under which the cutlers in the snow-suit-and-bracers industry will receive a \$1 flat increase effective the week beginning March 13. Shop meetings have been held at which the workers in this branch were informed of the decision.

In the infants' and children's snowsuit trade, the cutters will receive a \$5 weekly increase under a decision of Impertial Chairman George Minster. The increase takes effect the week beginning April 13, except that for those working on all merchandise it is effective April 8. Aside from presenting data on the rise in the cost of living, the union stressed the industry's favorable prospect for the future of infants' and children's wear based on a 50 per cent rise in births over pre-war years.

As reported in the last issue of "Justice," the cutters in the sportswear trade have obtained a \$7 weekly increase through negotiations with employers. This was warmly acclaimed at a well-attended membership meeting.

The cutters should bear in mind

either: Local 22, Skirmakers, Local 25, Corset and Bracer Workers, and Local 161, Snowsuit Workers.

Dress Drive

The organization drive in the dress industry is well under way, developing on a broad front. The objective is the unionization of certain jobbing firms which have their work made up in outside shops in outlying localities. Some of these shops employ cutters, others do not.

The cutters of Local 28 are requested to extend their full cooperation to the Dress and Coat Board whenever their aid is requested. The success of this important undertaking will substantially benefit all the dress workers.

After Easter Sunday, there is usually a slackening of operations but it is hoped this will be of short duration. A great deal depends on whether there will be early opening of spring lines and, of course, whether the retailers and buying offices will place their orders early rather than late. And this turns on the question of whether they will proceed with confidence or caution—a decision which will be based on their analysis of the general economic outlook during the rest of this year.

The consensus of opinion at this time is that a business recession is not in the cards during the next six months at least and that the outlook will be generally favorable.

ATTENTION

Members
LOCAL 10

REGULAR
MEETING

Monday
April 26, 1948
Right After Work
MANHATTAN
CENTER
34th St. & 8th Ave.

that the respective increases are to be added to their present weekly wages. If for any reason a worker does not obtain the full increase to which he is entitled, he should report this matter to the office of Local 10.

All cutters receiving wage increases should have their working cards changed to include the higher weekly wage.

In wage negotiations and hearings in these trades, the cutters were represented by Manager Isidore Nagler and Assistant Manager Moe Falkman. They worked together with the local unions representing the workers of the other

Aid for Italian Democracy



Vice Pres. Edward Molinari (center) and Israel Feinberg (right) present Cloak Joint Board's \$10,000 contribution to Italian-American Labor Council chief Luigi Antonini for furtherance of fight to preserve democracy in Italy.

For Democracy in Italy

The coming election in Italy will be of decisive importance to the whole world. It may mean the difference between war and peace. If the Italian people vote for the supporters of the Fascist regime, it will be the doom of democracy for which genuine Italian patriots and sympathizers have been striving for many years.

All Cloak Out-of-Town Department members with relatives or friends in Italy have an urgent duty. They must write letters to these people and explain that Communist victory would spell the end of Italy's liberty and progress. In America, our members must point out to their Italian relatives that only the Marshall Plan can really bring peace, bread and freedom. If the Communists win the Italian election, that hope will be shattered.

Time is short. The Italian election is scheduled for April 18. In the name of democracy — both American and Italian — this is the time you must perform. Write your letters, and write them right away.

Warning to Chiselers

The season has come to an end prematurely. A much better season had been expected, but failed to materialize because of consumer resistance and the general economic uncertainties of recent months. Although we are all naturally disappointed, it is necessary to look to the future. And at present the prospects are fairly encouraging.

For this reason, let us encourage all members to cherish their union standards and not to engage in deal with chiseling employers who seek them to work at less than the established prices. Loyal and intelligent trade unionists know that their hard-earned wage standards must be best guarded when the going gets difficult. Now else can the union go forward when better opportunities arise.

Therefore, let all Cloak Out-of-Town Department members consider themselves warned. If any member is found violating union wage standards, that member will have to stand trial before a grievance committee and face the full penalty for the offense.

Sportswear Workers Present 5 Demands For New Agreement

Negotiations for a new contract were initiated March 9 between Local 29 and the National Skirt and Sportswear Association with the following demands by the sportswear workers:

Representing the union in the conference were Manager Louis Rabin, General Manager Israel Feinberg, Jacob Goldman, chairman of Local 29, Isidore Nagler, manager of Local 16, Harry Wandler, manager of the Out-of-Town Dress Department, and Joseph Brunsaw, manager of Local 25.

The union called for a retirement fund, readjustment of minimums, seven paid holidays for all, paid-holiday clauses and a 5-cent pay.

can pay back dues at the old rate up to that date, after which the increased dues must be paid.

Political action for labor in 1948 will be discussed at a general membership meeting on April 14. Prominent speakers and a movie will feature the meeting.

COO activities arranged by the local's educational committee are an outing to Hyde Park and an update institute.

N. Y. CLOAKMAKERS

30 Machines Sent Abroad By Local 117 to Assist DP's

Ceremonies marking the presentation of 30 sewing machines and the adoption by Local 117, Cloak Operators, of two children were held on March 9.

Manager Benjamin Kaplan described the drive carried on by Local 117 to secure machines for

lowest. The fathers of both children were deported to concentration camps by the Nazis where they died. Other speakers at the ceremonies were Israel Feinberg, general manager of the Cloak Joint Board, Rubin Zuckerman, chairman of the local, and Benjamin Tabachinsky, field director of the Jewish Labor Committee.

It had been difficult to collect sewing machines which must necessarily be in good working condition. But efforts were spurred by the realization that each machine qualified two people to a chance for independent livelihood, he said.

Turning to the foster parents campaign, Kaplan announced that the adoption of two children by the local was part of intensive efforts to obtain the adoption of all children by workers in the shops. Thus far, checks for 33 children had been raised and he expressed confidence that the rest would soon be forthcoming.

Local 117 is now the proud foster parent of an 8-year-old boy, Raymond, and a 15-year-old girl, Raymond Zaidman, both at a children's home in Le Mans, France. Pictures and biographies of the two children were distributed among the members of the executive board, and were received with great in-

1,000 Pay Last Respects To Ashbes, Cloak Leader

(Continued from Page 1)

the Cloak Joint Board; Abraham Cohen, editor of the Jewish Daily Forward; Benjamin Kaplan, manager of Local 117; Ephraim Jeshurun, president of the Workmen's Circle; Adolph Held, chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee; Nathaniel M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the Dress Joint Board; William Wolpert, secretary of the United Hebrew Trades; Nathan Chaslin, educational director of the Workmen's Circle; Louis Hyman, manager of Local 8; Moe Diamond, president of the local.

The life story of Morris J. Ashbes followed the pattern of other immigrant leaders of the labor movement. Despite every adversity, he rose to high office through selfless loyalty to the interests of the workers. Born in 1889, he came to America in 1908 as a teen-ager, and immediately joined in the struggles of the labor and socialist movement. He became a member of the Operators' Union of the ILCWU, then known as Local 1, and in 1911 was elected manager for two years.

Ashbes later served in various offices in his local, and in 1930 became secretary-treasurer of the Cloak Joint Board. He was one of the founders of the Workmen's Circle, and at the time of his death, was a member of its national executive committee and national board of directors. He took an active part in the Jewish Socialist Verband and was instrumental in the formation of a cloakmakers' branch. He concerned himself with cultural and intellectual pursuits, taking deep interest in the Yiddish Theatre Institute and the Yiddish magazine.

He leaves a widow, Florence Ashbes, a son and a married daughter.



Morris J. Ashbes

Local 9 Holds Its First Meeting in English Language

Some 400 English-speaking members of Local 9, Cloak Finishers, attended a meeting on March 15, called by the educational committee, to discuss vital problems affecting the industry and the union. The response was highly enthusiastic and this marked departure from traditional procedure of conducting meetings in Yiddish.

Among matters discussed were conditions in the industry, negotiations for a new contract and the aims of the ILCWU and the Cloak Joint Board. A spirited discussion followed talks by Louis Hyman, local manager, Sam Bernan, chairman, Alex Miller, educational committee chairman, Jack Kaye and Sam Weiss, business agents. Plans for educational programs were presented and approved unanimously.

A notice has been sent to all members informing them that dues have been raised 18 cents a week, effective as of April 1. Workers

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LABORS GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

THE ATTACK ON THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

While Washington resounds to the thud and thunder of major domestic and international battles, the enemies of the Federal Department of Labor slumber not nor do they rest. Without fanfare, as if taking advantage of the deafening clatter on the main political scene, the Congressional haters of anything and everything bearing on labor welfare, are persistently gnawing away at the Labor Department's innards in the obvious hope that pretty soon there may be little left that is worth saving.

They began tearing out chunks of the Labor Department even before the present 80th Congress was elected in the fall of 1946. The Children's Bureau, for no particular reason—save for the all-pervading motive of "economy"—was transferred early in 1946 to the Social Security Agency despite the excellent record it had attained as a Labor Department bureau. Next came the Mediation and Conciliation Service, truly one of the Department's mainstays. With malice aforethought, this arm was severed by the GOP-ruled 80th Congress from the Labor trunk and nailed on to the Taft-Hartley Act with the obvious intent of "neutralizing" this service and removing it from any possible contamination by interests friendly to organized labor.

This year, the House Appropriations Committee, whose chairman is New York's John Taber, a statesman to whom the very term labor seems anathema, is training its guns on the entire Labor Department. The assault is spearheaded by one of Mr. Taber's sub-committees, which proposes to cut down the Department's budget fully 25 per cent, namely, from \$16,000,000 recommended by the Budget Bureau to \$12,498,000. This slash, if approved by the Senate, would mean the firing of 800 more of the Department's employees. It would affect, among others, the Bureau of Labor Standards, the office of the Department's solicitor, and its Women's Bureau.

Chiefly, however, this tory attack is aimed at the Labor Department's Bureau of Statistics. Last year, the BLS had its budget cut from \$6,381,000 to \$4,000,000. This year, the Bureau of Statistics sought to restore some of that vicious 36 per cent cut but got instead a new 39 per cent slash—the largest cut of any of the Department's agencies. The BLS appropriation, namely, would be only \$2,500,000 and would add up to a curtailment of almost 60 per cent over the past two-year period.

The trade unions, it may be observed, have not always seen eye to eye with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and have, on occasion, taken issue with its data and figures. But labor's criticism of the BLS had been chiefly because its work at times was not as comprehensive as it could be and often too tardy to meet urgent situations. The unions have always wanted fuller and wider statistics, not belated or outdated facts and figures. But cutting the budget of the BLS, obviously, would only bring about further cutting of personnel. Pennies may be saved, but promptness and adequacy will be lost.

Mr. Taber and his GOP associates, admittedly, don't go in for statistics. What, indeed, do they care for cost-of-living indices, for any theoretical understanding of what makes the national economy tick or kick? In bleeding white federal labor research, some of these tory bungleheads are inspired not alone by a penny-pinching philosophy but by an innate dislike for organized labor.

It's time for this insensible sniping to come to a stop. Congressional torcs must not be allowed to starve the U. S. Department of Labor into virtual inactivity. It is fairly scandalous that an enlightened democracy which finds it possible to raise 40 billion dollars for its national budget, should skimp and haggle over a mere crumb of 16 million dollars, the minimum necessary for the proper functioning of its only agency established specifically to serve the workers of our nation—the Department of Labor.

"Like He Says, I'm No Dope!"



Wins & Needs

THAT self-confessed lover of the "common man," Henry Wallace, is one of the very few Americans who finds himself in touching accord with Czechoslovakia's top leadership, Rudolf Slansky, who it was that converted that unhappy land into a "new democracy."

Slansky and Wallace, namely, agree that the culprits were none other than Bohemia's Social Democrats and the other pliant little democrats. These "rightists" had slain a coalition but the Kremlin "action boys" got three first, and now the country which Thomas Masaryk had put together and which Hitler could not wholly subdue is being put through an orgy of purges, MVD style.

But Mr. Wallace, as of this hour the Kremlin's "white hope" in the USA, has really gone Comrade Slansky one better by trying to implicate his country's own Ambassador to Prague in this so-called abortive "rightist" coup. Comrade Slansky, in contrast to Wallace, frankly admits in a "Communist" bulletin made public last week, that his gang was and still is a minority, but that they had put Czechoslovakia in the Moscow column with the aid of strong-arm "action committees."

The death of Morris Ashbes, veteran officer of the New York Cloak Joint Board, removes from the ILGWU scene a leader of impeccable loyalty to our movement. Morris Ashbes combined in a remarkable degree old school idealism with the practical outlook of modern trade unionism. In the old cloakmakers' organization, where he literally spent his entire life, Ashbes was a bulwark of strength.

Ashbes belongs to that select, now fast vanishing, group of young men who in the early years of the century had handed together to build mighty unions in the lowly and despised garment trades and to recast tens of thousands of underprivileged and timid garment workers into free and organized American wage earners.

WHAT has happened to prices—food prices in particular—since the "big" price break some six weeks ago?

The answer is— and you don't find this answer in six-inch type on the front page of the newspapers—that in the intervening period nearly all of the commodities have ranged upward to regain the greater part of their ripped losses.

Butter once more is at the \$1-a-pound mark, and the price of meat is climbing daily. The upshot of it all is that despite the bubble raised about the price break there seems to be little or no indication of any lasting relief for consumers in the form of lower prices.

The "cold" war between the Communist-led unions and the free trade unions in the CIO, which has been smoldering for a half-dozen years, is picking up heat, with an all-out jurisdictional slugfest well-nigh unavoidable in the immediate future.

Philip Murray's shadowy policy of "peace at any price" for the sake of an elusive unity within the CIO is crumbling fast. The challenging insolvency with which his Communist-bossed outfits have rebuffed the CIO high command on the Wallace candidacy and on Marshall Field support has created new explosive tensions.

The acceptance into its midst by the United Auto Workers (CIO) of several New England locals of the United Electrical Workers (CIO) who had "disaffiliated" from their parent body on the issue of Communist control, may be the *caveat belli*. It is reported that other UE locals are ready to follow the Hartford dissidents into the UAW on the same issue. If

this be "raiding," the greets who follow the Moscow line in the CIO will be entitled to scant sympathy. The record shows that they have never hesitated to invade their "sister" unions within the CIO when they got the chance.

THE ting of European socialism is being drawn sharply against Communism durum and coercion. The roll is being called in every free country abroad, and those socialists who choose to fall into the Moscow orbit are being read out of the ranks of democratic socialism.

Thus the international socialist conference which closed in London last week affirmed all-out socialist support for the European Recovery Plan. ERP, in fact, is a program which could be fully realized only through socialist leadership of the Western European nations. Virtually all the 18 nations affected directly by ERP are completely or principally socialist governed. Little wonder, Moscow and her satellites are raving savagely at the ERP.

Nor will it startle anyone in the West to learn that the Polish socialists, at least part of them, have been operating with the Warsaw Government, finally decided to "marginalize" the Communist Party. Such shogun marriages have taken place in Bulgaria, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Hungary and wherever the Red tyranny reigns unchallenged.

PM Daily, New York's curio newspaper, is on its dying bed. Scheduled to close down on March 26, it's now got a "shot in the arm" for an additional two weeks. Its chances for survival, however, are reckoned to be very slim.

Only the U. S. Internal Revenue Office may know how much gold Marshall Field had sent down the PM drain these past seven years. The most painful thing about its imminent demise is that it will cast upon an already glutted market some 150 newspaper workers.

More often than not, PM's liberalism has seemed to veer toward the fellow-traveler side of the street. It's been so touchy for years about Russia that it's folk of folks delighted in calling it the "updown edition of the 'Daily Worker.'" By the way, that Kremlin-living sheet is already frantically bidding for a few crumbs from the not-too-fat PM circulation pie. . . .

THE big propaganda campaign of the National Association of Manufacturers to sell "Free Enterprise" to the American public through the use of newspaper and other advertising received the other day a sock in the eye from Marshall Adams, himself a leading advertising man and a director of the Association of National Advertisers. We quote him with relish:

"The underwriting boils down to an effort to cover up the evils of the private enterprise system, and to propaganda against changes to improve that system. It seems to me to be the better strategy to drive the shortsighted and chattering elements of Free Enterprise out in the open, rather than to provide a tent they can hide under."

Adams recalls that reactionaries started the same kind of campaign when the "New Deal" came to power. "But they were unable to stop the inevitable social and economic changes that had been building up for years right under their noses." He called the propaganda "old" because "the American way of life is not static and never will be; it has undergone constant change over a 150 years and will continue to undergo changes for the foreseeable future. All of which is good and sound—except that the 'short-sighted elements of free enterprise' as Mr. Adams calls them, will continue impudently to shrug off his biting sermon, we believe. Like the bouncers of another day they forget nothing and learn even less. Perhaps Mr. Adams shares this belief with us.